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**Belorussian Supsov Appoints New State
Publishing Chief**

*18001675 Minsk SOVETSKAYA BELORUSSIYA in
Russian 25 Aug 89 p 1*

[Ukase of the Belorussian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium on the Appointment of I.P. Makalovich As Chairman of the Belorussian SSR State Publishing Committee, issued 24 August 1989]

[Text] Ukase of the Belorussian Supreme Soviet Presidium:

On the appointment of Comrade I.P. Makalovich as chairman of the Belorussian SSR State Publishing Committee

The Belorussian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium resolves:

To appoint Comrade Ivan Petrovich Makalovich as chairman of the Belorussian SSR State Publishing Committee.

Chairman of the Belorussian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, N. Dementey

Secretary of the Belorussian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, S.Syroyegina

Comrade I.P. Makalovich was born in 1940, he is Belorussian, and has been a CPSU member since 1962. He has a higher education, having completed the Belorussian State University imeni V.I. Lenin and the CPSU Central Committee Higher Party School. I.P. Makalovich is a journalist and a candidate of historical sciences.

He began his career in 1959 as a kolkhoznik on the Kolkhoz imeni Frunze in Luninetskiy Rayon, Brest Oblast. In 1962, after demobilization from the Soviet Army, he began his studies at the Belorussian State University imeni V.I. Lenin. Upon graduating in 1967 he worked on the staff of the oblast newspaper MIN-SKAYA PRAWDA and then as head of the editorial department. From 1973 to 1975 he studied at the CPSU Central Committee Higher Party School. From 1975 on he served as head of a department and deputy editor of the newspaper ZVYAZDA.

Since October 1986 he has been the editor of ZVYAZDA.

I.P. Makalovich is a member of the Belorussian CP Central Committee and chairman of the Board of the Belorussian SSR Journalists' Union. He has been awarded the Order of Labor Red Banner and a medal.

Kazakh Muslim Chief on New Role of Islam

18320021A

[Editorial Report] Alma-Ata LENINSHIL ZHAS in Kazakh on 16 May carries on page 2 a 1,000-word interview titled "Keeping the Peace, Our Common Duty" recorded by B. Isabayev with Ratbek Nysanbayev, KaSSR Muslims' qazi, former Kazakhstan representative to the Central Asia and Kazakhstan Muslims' Religious Administration (SADUM). Nysanbayev is asked in the interview about what republic religious figures are doing to promote peace and prevent nuclear war, what Nysanbayev thinks about current republic ecological problems, about perestroyka, glasnost and democratization, about Nysanbayev's own recent appointment as KaSSR Qazi (from 21 February, with apparently expanded powers and facilities, including a staff of 16), and the scope of his office, what funds raised from Muslims in the republic are used for, what he thinks about popular faith-healers (Nysanbayev denies that they have anything to do with Islam and calls upon young people—the readers of LENINSHIL ZHAS to keep away), and Nysanbayev's own qualifications as an administrator of republic Muslims. Nysanbayev's longest answer is given in regard to the role of religion in the republic, USSR and world peace movement, claiming that the goals of the peace movement are after all the goals of Islam and of all Muslims. He goes on, moreover, to mention recent conferences of republic Muslim and Muslim groups on the peace issue and participation in international meetings. To support such activities republic Muslims collected some 278,000 rubles in their Mosque Peace Fund in 1987 and collected another million rubles in 1988.

On other issues, Nysanbayev expresses his concern, like other Kazakhs, in view of the Aral and Lake Balkhash eco-disasters, but stresses the difficulty of assigning blame. He strongly supports perestroyka, glasnost and the new democracy, noting the importance of getting much that has been kept secret in the past (the "wounds we have suffered") out into the open in particular, and of achieving social justice (and preventing any repetition of past injustices at the same time). He sees reopening of Mosques closed (for no reason) for years, or in a dilapidated state (SADUM receives about 200,000 rubles a year in popular contributions to carry on its work, including the repair and upkeep of mosques), as the real test of the new policies, and makes it clear that he expects religion now to take a more active role in society, including more public and media exposure, the case with recent peace seminars, for example. He strongly praises, in fact, the public and media exposure that religion is now receiving (—something quite unlike the situation in the past, he hints).

Greater Latitude For Soviet Islam Discussed

18330018a

[Editorial Report] Frunze SOVETNIK KYRGYZSTAN in Kirghiz on 4 April 1989 carries on page 2 a 1,500 word

article by A. Doyev, chairman of the Department of Scientific Atheism at the Kirghiz State University, headlined "The Revival Of Islam" which discusses the new relationship between Islam and atheist propaganda in Kirghizia under the new conditions of perestroyka. Stressing that Leninist principles which proclaim the equality of religious believers and nonbelievers under socialism must be preserved, he urges propagandists to "avoid the most primitive measures in proving that there is no God." He explains that "religious believers seek to reconcile their faith with their conscience and to maintain the integrity of their religion under the conditions of socialism. Based on the concept of the 'duality' of truth, they attempt to argue that there is no contradiction between the claims of the Koran and a scientific view of the world." He adds that in the Soviet Union "Muslim revivalists, who often turn their attention to questions of religious faith, are trying to accommodate socioeconomic and political changes taking place in our country according to the demands of the time and convince religious believers of the full compatibility between the universality of Islam and the principles of communist morality." He cites the importance of the role of Islam in the fight against narcotics and environmental pollution, but notes that some Muslim rituals continue to be a problem because they still contain a "reactionary content." Hence, atheist propagandists must strengthen their work among religious believers by utilizing "new styles of work."

Turkmen Academics Give Reasons for Tenacity of Religion18300821 Ashkhabad TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA
in Russian 26 Aug 89 p 2

[Article by I. Akmuradov, S. Oveznepesov, senior lecturers, Department of Scientific Atheism, Turkmen State University imeni A.M. Gorkiy: "Religiosity: Reasons for Its Tenacity"]

[Text] The victory of socialism does not mean the possibility of automatically eliminating religious vestiges in people's consciousness. The old views and traditions, superstitions and religious beliefs were developed over centuries, were handed down from generation to generation, and cannot disappear together with the passing of those generations which evolved under the conditions of an exploitative society. We observe manifestations of the latter even in our own day.

Atheistic education is an extremely complex process. The task comprises overcoming superstitions and, at the same time, forming materialistic views in people's consciousness. Despite the vigorous and multi-faceted ideological activity of the CPSU in this matter, a certain portion of the population is under the influence of religious vestiges. The fact of the matter is, M.S. Gorbachev noted, that "...strata of the past do leave traces. They make themselves known by manifesting themselves in people's consciousness, their actions, and their behavior. A life style cannot be changed immediately,

and it is even more complicated to overcome inertia in thinking. Energetic efforts are necessary here."

One of the objective reasons for the retention of religious survivals is the lag of social consciousness behind the level of the development of social life. Elements of the old type of consciousness, including religious traditions, holidays, and superstitions, can be preserved even when the material life of the society has radically changed.

The founders of Marxism-Leninism emphasized in their works that religion, which put down its roots for the many millennia of its existence, will not depart from the arena of history during the course of a few decades, even after the establishment of the dictatorship of the proletariat. Although the conditions of people's life change, and their consciousness is changed, the social consciousness changes more slowly.

During the first few years of the Soviet regime quite a few activists became victims of socialism's ideological foes. Throughout the entire territory of Turkmenia bands of *basmachi*, led by Dzhunaid-khan, Eziz-khan, and many others, had close ties with the Moslem clergy. They were hostile to the decrees of the Soviet regime, set themselves the task of defending the religion of Islam, along with the old customs, traditions, and life style of the Turkmens.

Throughout the entire territory of this republic the former exploiter classes, together with the reactionary clergy, terrorized the population, burned down cultural-educational and medical institutions, destroyed schools, and annihilated party, soviet, and Komsomol staff members. The class enemies viciously killed Ali Sadykov at his party post in the Tashauz District. In December 1929 a female student of the medical institute was killed in Ashkhabad by her own husband because she refused to abandon her studies. On 15 February 1930 a band of *basmachi* in the aul of Geoklen, Ilyaninskiy Rayon, killed 200 *dekhsans*[peasants], who were firmly defending the Soviet regime.

K.G. Aliyeva, a participant in the women's emancipation movement, recalls the following: "It is not easy to root out the vestiges of the past with regard to women. The *bay*[feudal-lord] elements and the clergy exerted a stubborn resistance to the emancipation of women, and they dealt very roughly with activists. Thus, our foes bestially murdered Annadzhemal-Khydyr-kyzy, the women's organizer of the Geok-Teninskiy Volost Committee. But these enemies did not succeed in strangling the great aspiration of Turkmen women for freedom and equality, for a bright, socialist life...illiterate Turkmen women with all their souls and from the depth of their hearts expressed their love for the party and its great leader. A manifestation of such love were the hand-woven rug-portraits of V.I. Lenin, made in 1927 and bearing the inscription "Down with the *Kalym*[bride money]!" There were many such instances which took place all over Turkmenia."

It is clear that building a new life cannot be accomplished without gigantic difficulties. Building socialism requires a break-up of the old social attitudes affecting the interests of all classes and social groups, overcoming old traditions and views, and educating people in the spirit of the new world view.

Under present-day conditions the retention, and sometimes even the activation, of religiosity are linked to the influence of the capitalist camp. Our ideological foes abroad with the aid of all manner of media are exerting an influence on Soviet people. These broadcasts emphasize the religious feelings of Moslem believers. They strive to heighten an interest in religion, to animate religious feelings and moods, to arouse among Moslem peoples a sense of exclusivity and fanaticism.

One of the objective reasons for the retention of religiosity among the masses is the number of natural disasters that are occurring and which are sometimes difficult to explain scientifically. Members of the Moslem clergy, various types of religious fanatics and rogues are spreading agitation about these natural disasters (the earthquakes in Azerbaijan, Tajikistan, and in other regions of the Soviet Union). They explain the action of the objective laws of nature as a punishment of people, especially believers for their deserting the faith, for refusing to observe the requirements of the Koran, the Shariat, etc. During the period of the natural disasters members of the clergy, taking advantage of the fact that man is still powerless in the face of nature, intensify their propaganda concerning these events. They constantly advise people to visit the "holy places," the "holy" *mazars* [?], which are situated on the territory of this republic.

One of the reasons for retaining religiosity in the past was the backwardness of many peoples, including the Turkmen people as well. Here there was a predominance of feudal-patriarchal relations, agriculture was backward, culture was at a low level, and many peoples did not have their own writing systems. Attention is drawn to the fact that there is more religiosity among women than among the male portion of the population. The religiosity of women is also to be explained by a number of factors.

In the first place, the sphere of women's activity is limited, to a large extent, to housekeeping, where her work is of low productivity and is predominantly manual (preparing and cooking food, cleaning, washing, caring for the children, etc.). The everyday drudgery and monotony of these household tasks, in the final analysis, facilitate the development among such women of a psychology of passivity and indifference.

In the second place, the number of Turkmen women, especially those with families, who do not take part in socially productive work and in the socio-political life of society is still significant. In our opinion, this is explained by the large number of children. It is difficult to conduct scientific-atheistic work with them. In the third place,

most women, particularly in rural localities, perceive and observe religious vestiges as purely national, and ethnic, considering them to be the fulfillment of the heritage of the older generations. In the fourth place, the general educational level of Turkmen women is low.

In no case can we permit administrative methods to be used in the struggle against religious vestiges. In this sharp ideological struggle, we must turn more frequently to the atheistic heritage of the classics of Marxism-Leninism.

Russian Culture Movement 'Yedinstvo' Issues Declaration

18001644 Moscow LITERATURNAYA ROSSIYA
in Russian No 30, 28 Jul 89, pp 8-9

[Appeal by the initiative group for the establishment of the Yedinstvo [Unity] Movement of the Lovers of Russian Literature and Art: "For Unity and Community"]

[Text] Dear Friends! Compatriots!

Together with you, we have earned our freedom through suffering, lived through the gravest world war, and endured the tragic and heroic years of our history, but without false optimism have nonetheless divined in the dramatic events of the present tense years the future contours of the Country and face of our native People.

We believe that today, in a fateful time for the Fatherland, there is no loftier, urgent internationalist task of the whole people and of state significance than that of strengthening the moral, spiritual and patriotic community of the fraternal peoples, and establishing in the people's consciousness, through the creativity of the artist, the humanistic principles of mercy, kindness and beauty—the shortage of these qualities in our time is increasingly obvious, most regrettably, not only in our country but throughout the entire world. We see the unity of peoples as the basis for our hopes and aspirations and the development of our parent's good instructions: Look out for Russia.

In taking this step, we are acting in the traditions of the best 19th-century Russian intelligentsia, which sympathetically and with heart and soul took up the liberation of the peoples and their pain and suffering following the reform of 1861. In doing so, the intelligentsia drew no distinctions among nationalities; its concern, involvement and compassion were extended equally to the Chuvash and the Tatar, the Buryat and the Kabardin, the Georgian and the Estonian, the Latvian and the Pole, the Russian and the Moldavian, the Uzbek and the Kazakh.

The zemstvos, the rural communes and various philanthropic, educational, publishing, scientific, handicraft and cooperative associations and societies played a tremendous role in elevating the awareness of Russia's peoples and in their enlightenment and spiritual renewal.

A new surge of enthusiasm and unselfishness occurred among our intelligentsia following the February and October revolutions.

Today, however, attempts are being made to weaken our centuries-old brotherhood, and extremist forces are attacking on all fronts in an effort to erode, impair and destroy the thousand-year-old spiritual wealth created by the genius of Ancient Rus, the genius of the brother Slavs of Russia, the Ukraine and Belorussia.

This is the alarming reality of our day: either we, as a whole community, stop the tendency toward the exacerbation of nationality conflict in our Soviet society, or a nationalistic arrogance and demagogic anarchy under the "flag" of Perestroika and Glasnost will rock our multinational Ship of State more and more strongly. There is no third alternative. We all must thoroughly recognize this Truth. And having recognized it, must act unselfishly, on a voluntary basis, taking advantage of any opportunity and utilizing any form of concerting our common efforts for the practical improvement of internationality relations, and the creation of **equal conditions** for the development of the national language, literature and culture of **every people** in the Russian Federation and Soviet Union.

We must act in the name of the unity and community of peoples, in the name of strengthening the prestige of our multinational socialist Fatherland.

This alone has dictated our appeal to all our compatriots—workers, peasants, the technical intelligentsia, people in literature and the arts, all lovers of Russian literature and art, and all the Homeland's patriotic forces—to unite the Movement into a public patriotic, cultural and educational association known as Unity [Yedinstvo] that will carry out its activities in accordance with the USSR and RSFSR constitutions and the legislation of the USSR, RSFSR and the fraternal union republics, and in accordance with the association's charter. That is what we see as the main tasks of Unity, the essence and meaning of its activities.

In proposing the establishment of the association, we believe that the RSFSR Writers' Union and Russian Culture Foundation could initially become its founders together with the initiative group of people from literature, the arts, science and economics and representatives of the workers, peasantry and all of our society's healthy, progressive forces.

Workers' collectives in cities and villages, Russian creative unions and the fraternal republics' unions, and the creative collectives—the Russian Museum; the Pushkin House; the Bakhrushin Museum; the Tretyakovskiy Gallery; Russian museums and theaters; state public libraries in Moscow, Leningrad, Novosibirsk, Kazan and all of Russia's autonomous republics and oblasts; palaces of culture and clubs; Russian periodical publications and book publishing houses; the teaching and research public; the Komsomol; and the new public creative associations, including the Fellowship of Russian Artists, the Russian Culture Society, the Foundation for Slavic Literature and Slavic Cultures, the Union for the Spiritual Rebirth of the Fatherland, and other public associations—are invited to participate in Unity's affairs.

According to our understanding, Unity should include everyone, regardless of national affiliation, faith, place of residence, or social and financial status—everyone who desires to take an active, serious part in carrying out the

public cultural and practical programs with which we want to acquaint you today.

The association is being created to bring together all of Russia's healthy national and intellectual forces in order to help inculcate in citizens true culture and a lofty sense of morality, goodness and compassion for their neighbors, and a rejection of falsehood, envy, selfishness, greed and other vices; and in order to help instill civic courage, love for one's home, and the best human qualities and character traits, which has always been the concern of great Russian culture and literature, which are based on the idea of universal responsiveness that our times, in particular, need so much.

We propose for your consideration and discussion five main areas of our future activities.

Russia's Living Word: The Association and the National Languages

The development of proposals for preservation of all the fraternal people's national languages as the basis of culture, and the practical implementation of these proposals.

The association will institute, create and, in the future, formally organize an Academy of Russia's Literature, which will include a language institute whose purpose will be the comprehensive study of the process of reciprocal influences and mutual enrichment among the national languages of the Russian Federation's peoples, especially at the present stage. It will contribute to the creation of dictionaries of the languages of all the Russian Federation's peoples.

Unity will assist organizations, scientific societies, the literary public and all lovers of Russian literature in the development and mutual enrichment of Russian as the language of internationality intercourse among our country's peoples.

While contributing in every way possible to the flourishing of the languages of Russia's peoples and to the revelation of their national originality and uniqueness, the association will resolutely oppose the manifestation from any quarter whatsoever of any attempts at either "national isolation" or the "elevation" of any language over others.

Each language of the peoples belonging to the Russian Federation enriches the other peoples' spiritual treasury.

As a Single Family: The Association and the Spiritual Unity of Russia's Inhabitants

Unity will assist the creative unions, cultural agencies and amateur collectives in publicizing the achievements of Russia's multinational literature.

The association proposes to take the initiative and take direct part in the preparation and publication of a 100-volume library including the classic works and best

present-day works of Russia's writers, and in the preparation and publication of a literary encyclopedia of Russia and a short literary dictionary including the names of all Russia's writers, as well as a multivolume compilation of the folklore of the RSFSR's peoples. It will strive for the publication of a monthly magazine in which the works of present-day writers from Russia's autonomous republics are published in Russian, and will promote the establishment in Leningrad of a theater of the RSFSR's peoples that will stage the best productions of Russia's national theaters in their native languages.

Unity will submit a proposal to the USSR Cinema Workers' Union to organize its own film studio, organize the screen adaptation of the best works of Russia's writers, and make films about Russia's workers and peasants and about artists, writers, composers, architects and other outstanding cultural figures from among Russia's peoples; it will establish close relations with the RSFSR Artists' Union in order to publicize Russia's artistic culture (painting, graphic arts, sculpture, architecture and applied folk arts).

The association will institute an annual people's festival of multinational Russian-republic literature and culture and will organize all-Russian and international competitions, symposiums and meetings of the lovers of Russia's literature devoted to outstanding writers of Russia and the fraternal literatures, and to great world masters of literature.

To Acquire Our Own Voice: The Association and the Mass Media

Supporting in every way possible the literary public's repeated and insistent demands concerning the establishment of an independent "Russia Speaks and Shows" channel on Central Television and radio, the association will work to achieve the fastest possible resolution of this urgent question.

Until such a channel is established, the association will insist that All-Union Radio and Central Television allocate time that is conducive to listeners and viewers for the organization of radio and television programs on the literature and language of Russia's writers, on Russia's present-day culture, and on the history of our peoples.

Until these questions are resolved, it will endeavor to make broad use of currently existing periodicals, radio and television.

The association proposes to have its own weekly publication titled LYUBITELYAM ROSSIYSKOY SLOVESNOSTI [For Lovers of Russia's Literature]. As a supplement to it, a series of books that are especially loved by the people should be published under the same title.

In the future, Unity will strive to have its own magazines: an illustrated weekly magazine of society, politics, literature and the arts, and a monthly magazine of

literature and the arts, society and politics. Eventually it proposes to establish its own publishing and printing firm.

A Friend's Hand: The Association and Compatriots Abroad

The association proposes to actively assist and cooperate with the 20 million persons who live outside our homeland's borders (that is, of the Russian-speaking population), providing them every possible assistance in the study of the history of Russian language and literature, as well as with foreign national societies of all the country's other peoples.

Unity will respond with gratitude to the desire of foreign citizens of Russian origin and of any other nationality to join the association or contribute to its work, guided by the lofty intentions of propagandizing indigenous language, literature and culture.

Theirs Is the Future: The Association and Young People

All of the association's activities will be directed toward the rising generation—schoolchildren, students of vocational-technical schools, young workers, rural young people, higher-school students, and soldiers in the Soviet Army. The goal is to instill civic ideals, a broad humanistic world view, and a sense of the spiritual unity of the peoples of Russia and the entire Soviet land.

The association will contribute in every possible way to the establishment in Russia's cities and rayons of young people's clubs of lovers of Russia's literature, in whose work prominent figures in literature and the arts, scholars in language and literature, and talented teachers of literature would take part. And Unity will also take part in such clubs in the union republics.

The association will give special attention to the schools and to aesthetic and moral and humanitarian upbringing. An important role here belongs to high-quality, engagingly written textbooks and study materials for the study of the indigenous national languages, as well the study of Russian as the language of internationality intercourse that promotes the community and unity of our country's peoples. Unity considers one of the most important tasks in its activity to be the announcement and holding of an open, public competition for future authors of a "Russkiy yazyk" [Russian Language] and "Russkaya literatura" [Russian Literature] textbook and study materials, as well as competitions in the RSFSR autonomous republics for the creation of textbooks in the indigenous languages and literatures.

Together with the Committee for Public Education and the Academy of Pedagogical Sciences, the association proposes to hold, during the school vacation period, regional and republic olympiads and creative competitions of young reciters devoted to the outstanding writers of Russia's peoples.

The association intends to appeal to the executives of the Ministry of Defense with a proposal to jointly conduct the patriotic and cultural upbringing of soldiers.

Unity will provide assistance to young writers, hold seminars, discussions and symposiums, and assist in their literary education and in the publication of young authors' works. It will institute a medal (gold and silver) for Soviet citizens and an honorary degree, as well as a gold medal for foreign citizens, for an outstanding contribution to propaganda, through the literary word, for the unity and community of Russia's peoples.

Undoubtedly, a great deal in these programs will be clarified at the association's founding congress, and some things will be added and expanded. What we wanted to do was to give those who share our views an idea of the range of spiritual and cultural problems whose solution brooks no delay. We are reminded of this by our people's tempestuous and contradictory response to reality.

We are perfectly well aware that the impression may arise that we are attempting, through our association, to replace many state and public institutions and organizations whose purpose is to do this work. But such an apprehension does not worry us. There is plenty to do for everyone, and there will be some left over for our children. It is important to join in harmony and concert to undertake work that is useful and needed by the people, which has long awaited its spiritual shepherds.

Unity counts on basing its activities on the principles of self-financing. Possible financial sources include voluntary contributions by its members and by individual citizens and organizations that share and support the association's goals and objectives; income from publishing activities and radio and television programs, as well as from educational and propaganda work; extensive charitable contributions from major industrial enterprises, kolkhozes, sovkhozes, marine shipping lines and publishing houses; etc.

The following structure is proposed for the association: Its supreme body would be the congress. Its executive body would be the Central Russian Council. It would be elected at the association's congress by secret ballot. The congress would also elect the association's president, vice-president, five deputy presidents who would also serve as coordinators of general cultural programs, and nine members of a presidium. They would all serve for three years each. One-third of the council would be elected each time. The congress would elect the executives of the association's publications.

Unity councils for Russia's regions and for national societies abroad would be elected at a general meeting of the association's members in a given region.

Association clubs would be established—oblast, city and rayon clubs, as well as clubs at enterprises, on kolkhozes

and sovkhozes, in cooperatives, schools and technicums, and at places of residence. The association's Central Club would be in Moscow.

All work would be on a voluntary basis, including that of the president, vice-president and deputy presidents. The association intends to have only a small staff of executive organizers and technical employees consisting of no more than 10-12 persons, and a chief treasurer.

In its practical activities Unity will rely on passionately devoted creative people who are true lovers and defenders of Russia's literature, on the numerous Moscow and local institutions connected with Russia's cultural life, and on the republic creative unions and associations.

The association is a juridical person and has its own seal and own bank account.

Of course, now you won't surprise anyone with any sorts of associations. Every day societies, foundations, committees and commissions of various sorts spring up that thirst for philanthropic activities.

We wish them useful creative work and invite them to cooperation and to national unity among the people's of Russia and the Soviet Union.

The proper example, in the spirit of our country's good traditions, should be set by the creative intelligentsia of all the republics, and especially of Russia. Its members are capable of coming forth as a mighty spiritual detachment to the front line of the struggle for popular awareness, and of investing in that struggle the full force of their reason, spiritual nobility, decency, conscience, compassion for their neighbors, and love and devotion to their people.

All who desire to take part in our association's founding congress—individuals, collectives and organizations—may express their will in a letter to the initiative group, addressed to 119146 Moscow, Komsomolskiy Prospekt 13, Board of the RSFSR Writers' Union, attention: Unity. This is where the initiative group's headquarters are located. It is proposed that the congress be held in the autumn. For the present, we await your proposals concerning Unity's creative and organizational program.

To a philanthropic cause, dear compatriots!

M. N. ALEKSEYEV, writer; V. I. BELOV, writer (Vologda); A. A. BOLOGOV, writer (Pskov); Yu. V. BONDAREV, writer; S. F. BONDARCHUK, film director; S. V. VIKULOV, poet; S. A. VORONIN, writer (Leningrad); Musa GALI (G. G. GALEYEV), poet (Ufa); R. G. GAMZATOV, poet (Makhachkala); S. S. GEYCHENKO, writer (Pskov); L. P. GOLOVNEV, colonel; D. Ya. GUSAROV, writer (Petrozavodsk); N. G. DAMDINOV, poet (Ulan-Ude); S. P. DANILOV, writer (Yakutsk); R. S. YENIKEYEV, kolkhoz chairman (Bashkiria); A. N. ZHUKOV, writer; A. D. ZNAMENSKIY, writer (Krasnodar); A. A. ZOLOTOV, critic; S. A. ZOLOTSEV, poet;

A. S. IVANOV, writer; Ye. A. ISAYEV, poet; V. I. KALUGIN, writer; V. A. KANASHKIN, writer (Krasnodar); B. L. KARPOV, film director; V. M. KLYKOV, sculptor; M. S. KOLOBKOV, professor; B. M. KONYUKHOV, film director; I. A. KOTOMKIN, jurist; A. A. KUZNETSOV, writer; F. F. KUZNETSOV, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences; Yu. P. KUZNETSOV, poet; S. Yu. KUNYAYEV, poet; A. V. LARIONOV, writer; G. I. LITVINOVA, doctor of legal sciences; I. I. LYAPIN, poet; I. Sh. MASHBASH, writer (Maykop); O. N. MIKHAYLOV, writer; R. S. MUKHAMADIYEV, writer (Kazan); N. G. NIKONOV, writer (Sverdlovsk); V. I. NOVIKOV, critic; V. S. PIKUL, writer (Riga); P. L. PROSKURIN, writer; Yu. L. PROKUSHEV, writer; V. G. RASPUTIN, writer (Irkutsk); B. A. RYBAKOV, academician; A. S. SALUTSKIY, writer; A. S. SAMSONOV, plant director; N. V. SVIRIDOV, personal pensioner; V. M. SIDOROV, poet; Ye. I. SOKOLOV, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences; V. V. SOROKIN, poet; L. A. FROLOV, writer; I. R. SHAFAREVICH, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences; Yu. N. SHESTALOV, writer (Leningrad); L. V. SHIKIN, poet; A. M. SHILOV, artist.

Anti-Cult Films Valuable As Polemics With Past History

18001345 Moscow SOVETSKAYA KULTURA
in Russian, 27 Jun 89 p 4

[Article by M. Zak, doctor of art history: "From an 'Oath' to 'Repentance'"]

[Text] Today physical culture parades on Red Square have made their appearance on the screen. They are spliced together with the cutting down of forests, and this is supposed illustrate the metaphor of "tree-felling." For now, it is the highest, most simplistic layer of associations that is being filmed. All the work is yet to come. To understand it while it is still a theory in the planning stage, it would be useful to take a look around.

M. Chiaureli, in creating a portrait of Stalin, used chronicles which, at that time, were inaccessible to others. He saw the film of the burial of V. I. Lenin, which was publicized not long ago in a television serial. M. Gelovani is dressed exactly as Stalin was in real life: a Siberian fur coat, high felt boots, a hat with long ear-flaps. The wooden platform that the coffin stood on in "Klyatva" [The Oath] was taken from a documentary film.

But here is a different scene from the same film—a happy one. Budyenny is dancing to an accordion, polished boots flashing through the frames. And again, the dancing is borrowed from the chronicle of the 17th Party Congress.

When "Klyatva" was being discussed in the artistic council, V. Gorbakov said, specifically: "The dancing of that Yermilov (actor Plotnikov), where Budyenny joins in, also, is wonderful. I expected Comrade Voroshilov to

start dancing, too! It is on the basis of all of this that our democracy can be understood..."

In reading archival documents, you see that time spares neither the image nor the word. Ecstasy is replaced with sarcasm. If only we did not assume that from the very beginning these phrases were freighted with irony, hidden or not, disguised as ringing praise. One wishes to believe...

In any case, what is important here is that cult art did not arise in an empty space. No matter how far from reality it has been, it has needed certain realities to serve as its base. These small crutches were able to escape into the cultural layer. In "Klyatva" traces of religious compositions are distinctly visible, as in the scene where the woman from "the people," holding in her hands the white "testament," moves toward the grave on which the political "god" is elevated. Without quotation marks it is difficult now to reproduce this composition which is pathetic by design, and far from historical truth and secular art in general.

But when it was necessary, a cheap print would show up on the screen: movies of Stalin driving a tractor clearly had something in common with pictures like the ones that, in their time, hung on the walls of huts. These films would be put to a soundtrack of a symphony orchestra playing P. I. Tchaikovsky's romance "I Opened the Window." What is the connection between this romance and the leader on a tractor? A most direct one: after all, the hired-out realities of art would awaken in the viewer the accustomed emotions; pseudo-art used genuine art as a prop.

A similar method did not elude "Klyatva's" cast of characters. Among them were Bukharin and Kamenev. Of course, these were not three-dimensional figures. Like shadows, they arose in the background to justify the leader's reprisals. The film's stage directions bear witness: "Stalin (stops, looks in Bukharin's direction and whispers): We will surrender Lenin to nobody, and we will yield his testament to nobody."

Who could accuse the authors of leaving out actual historical figures? There they are, on the screen, branded by a governmental whisper. The religious compositions, the film chronicles, the cheap prints, Tchaikovsky, the label "enemies"—everything worked towards the goal of forming a whimsical fusion of cult art. Naturally, in today's view. And in yesterday's?

Once again, let us turn to the stenographic notes of the artistic council. Here is the opinion of N. Okhlopkov, expressed not without an actor's pathos: "What a wonderful mixture of truth and fantasy, what skill in uniting these two things!"

If we make the jump to today, we meet with that term again. I am talking about films, conditionally speaking, of an anti-cult orientation. Such films as "Mirror for a Hero," where the characters, having stumbled over the

wire, fall into the year 1949 and, thanks to this fantastic opportunity, experience for themselves all the charms of life at that time.

Leading in this orientation is "Pokayaniye" [Repentance]. In discussions of this picture such concepts as "phantasmagoria" or "absurd" are used very frequently. By the director, as well, who gave the following explanation: "The time of Varlam is so absurd in and of itself that it was possible to translate it on the screen only through the expressive means of the absurd..."

All the same, nobody raises a hand to compare "Klyatva" and "Pokayaniye," even in a purely conditional ("fantastic") manner. Although T. Abuladze's film is also drawn from documents and cultural traditions: from the names of prisoners carved on logs to an abandoned temple. The romance "I Opened the Window" is replaced with a Manriko aria, and Varlam's playing at democrat and his masquerade-like mask improvisations conjure up the memory of the leader on a tractor and of the dance of his companions-in-arms.

The authors of "Pokayaniye" worked towards the directly opposite goal, hoping to uncover the monstrous unnaturalness of total despotism. In order to achieve this goal, they utilized by right the world's resources of spiritual experience. Principally, they declared an oath to the cult of history, starting with the scenario of the late Adam and Eve.

T. Abuladze mentioned "Ivan the Terrible" among the predecessors of his art. Meanwhile, who now will not say that that tsar was Stalin's favorite hero, and that S. Eisenstein was carrying out a definite social order? A divergent formula cries out to be committed to paper: on the one hand...but also on the other hand. From "Battle-ship Potemkin" on the director made, as a rule, the prescribed pictures. But the disfavor that eventually devoured the second part of "Ivan the Terrible" speaks eloquently enough about the way S. Eisenstein fulfilled his social task.

Even before the September Central Committee resolution on cinematography, in February of 1946 a discussion of the second part took place in the artistic council—without the producer, who was in the hospital. Reading the notes is difficult. The document reflects the wretchedness in the souls and minds of artists forced for an extended period to work under conditions of cult direction. As a matter of fact, the accusations that were soon levied against S. Eisenstein's film were already contained in this discussion.

I will touch on only one evaluation, seemingly a private one. Again, it concerns a dance, this time—of the oprichniki [the tsar's bodyguards]. Composer V. Zakharov pronounced: "These dances made a negative impression on me. All abrupt movements having to do with dancing are especially just. People could not dance like that in the times of Ivan the Terrible... It was, after all, the golden

age of skomoroshestvo [the practice of wandering minstrels and clowns in the middle ages in Russia], and its practitioners were amazingly skilled."

It is easy to be ironic now, for example, in expressing regret that the conductor of the Pyatnitskiy Chorus and his colleagues were not invited to direct the production of the dance number. Or, let's say, to draw this sort of parallel: the dance in "Klyatva" pleased everyone's souls. Uncomplicated publicistic reactions. Is there much use in them?

Why then did they not want to or were unable to understand that the "Khlystic zeal" [Khlysty were members of a religious sect remarkable for its disregard for organized worship and for its own energetic and ecstatic mode of prayer], as they called that scene, is concerned very little with the art of choreography. That in it was recreated the image, exhaling menace, of tyranny and despotism, found in the sinister synthesis of plastic, music and color? The image, pushed into the zone of "absurdist" art, to use the words of the author of "Pokayaniye," or "funhouse" art, according to S. Eisenstein's formula.

Yes, the past is not protected from irony or simplistic journalism. But would it not be better to attempt to find the genealogy of today's screen in history, to begin the search in that direction?

And so, it has come out that along with the second part of "Ivan the Terrible" there was a second part of "The Great Life." Both films were taken prisoner in the funereal frames of one showing, although in this case its contemporaries did not err. They understood the difference between works that were united by state ostracism.

And here is the first surprise...the notes of the "All-Union Meeting of Workers in Artistic Cinematography on the Discussion of the Decision of the Central Committee of the VKP(b) on the Film 'The Great Life'" leaves not as somber an impression as one might suppose. Of course there were abuses, of course there were confessions. And director L. Lukov grieved that beyond the little mine and the pick he saw no great victory. But along with this, the tone of the speeches, far from obsequiousness and subsiveness, amazes and gladdens. On the contrary, they spoke of the dominance of rigid editing, of the lack of respect for creative cadres, of an increase in the role of the community, of the "generals" and "composers" duty of supervising at the artistic councils. It reached the point where I. Volshakov, then the leader in cinematography, was forced in his closing statement to put the extremists in their place: "The question has been raised here about the organization of a union of creative workers. Comrade Pyryev has said that this union should possess rights. Which rights? To control cinematography? Then say it—the union of creative workers should control cinematography instead of the ministry. This will not come to pass!"

Even now it is not completely clear whether this has come to pass or not. The idea of a joint community-government

administration of cine-art, born in the atmosphere of the Fifth Conference of the Union of Cinematographers, has found an unexpected source. And what a source: at the 1946 meeting, where only one thing—repentance—was expected from the artists! Obviously, then, I must admit that my conclusion, regarding the psychological wretchedness allegedly found in the course of the discussion of "Ivan the Terrible," was premature?

It goes both ways. The fate of S. Eisenstein's last film was tragic. Not only because it deceived the expectations of its first viewer. The film was ahead of its time. It had "The Grand Inquisitor" instead of a great Russian tsar, "not a Russian picture;" in the first part there is the "rout of Tartary," but this is "palace melodrama." These evaluations are taken from the notes, they are real and in their own way reflect the movements and mindsets of people who have been a little blinded and deafened by victory salutes.

As far as "The Great Life" is concerned (second part), its insignificant artistic weight put no pressure on the masters, who understood perfectly that the picture was no more than a pretext for showing the place of art under post-war conditions. This affected everyone, not just L. Lukov, v. Pudovkin, G. Kozintsev and L. Trauberg or S. Eisenstein, who were mentioned in the resolution. From this, it seems to me, came most of the resistibility and the attempt to defend their positions, including the idea of creating a creative union.

To a certain extent it is natural that an echo of "Ivan the Terrible" was heard in "Pokayaniye," and that "The Great Life" was quoted in "Mirror for a Hero." That there is a little pit or a pick: in V. Khotinenko's film the avalanche looks like an opened grave, with its rotted wooden cross-pieces sticking out like ribs. The song "The Dark Burial Mounds Are Sleeping" ["Spyat Kurgany Temnyye] from "The Great Life," like the whole milieu that is restored on the screen, manifests itself as some kind of two-part citation from the past, placed in the context of the time of reconstruction.

If one considers that publicism today has to a great extent made its own determination of artistic experience, it is proper to admit that the intention of the authors of "Mirror for a Hero" is wholly justified. Besides, it is no less obvious that this is a transitional form, that the realities of art and culture are utilized here according to the principle of "borrowing" which is so necessary to today's cinematography.

We do not have the right to forget our past, even the worst and most tragic past, because much that is being brought to the screen now is a reaction to that past, and seems to debate it, to be its negation. Or, on the contrary, it is the rebirth of the unfairly forgotten, the rehabilitation of what was judged before. Otherwise, having broken the cine-process into separate links, having discarded certain films and praised others, we risk repeating the mistakes, violating the complex dialectic of causes and consequences.

Milita Responds to Increased Criminal Violence

18001063 Moscow MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA
in Russian 18 Apr 89 p 3

[Article by L. Kislinkaya: "Security Guards Without Protection"]

[Text] A gangster simultaneously rented rooms in several Moscow hotels. Like an animal being chased he changed addresses and passports, and for good reasons. He had been the focus of attention for a long time: MUR (Moscow Office of Criminal Investigation) detectives understood that such experienced robbers had to be caught red-handed. But the single room in one of the best hotels, to which he returned late at night, was found empty early the next morning. That is, he had outwitted them by somehow escaping unnoticed.

But several hours later the staff of the criminal investigation office knew which city the "guest of the capital" had reached and how. The time of the capture was fast approaching. For this reason I will not name the hotel, and especially the organizations which gave the criminal "touring artist" warrants to live in them. There will be a reason to return to this later. And during that morning chase, in which a TASS correspondent also took part, one detail put him on guard. The MUR staff suggested that the robber would have to meet with his confederates in the Pekin Restaurant. During a conversation with the maitre d'hotel Markin (he categorically refused to give his name) the operatives understood that the times when detectives could occupy tables for official purposes were gone. Markin, the maitre d'hotel, despite an official warning that something irremediable might happen, refused to reserve two seats for the staff from the legal protection organs. Moreover, the shortage of tables had no effect on our gangster's confederates. That evening they enjoyed Chinese food, although, to be sure, it was without him.

This kind of behavior on the part of people in responsible positions is no accident; it reflects a kind of pattern. I recall the MUR people also telling me that their operatives were not permitted to go from the service entrance into the Academic Theatre imeni Mayakovskiy.

What is behind these incidents? The legal nihilism, which has now become entrenched, has played a big role. One of its integral features is the loss of respect for all representatives of power, who so frequently compromised themselves, including employees from the law-enforcement protection organs. And, maybe, this is the basis of the tendency which has developed in public opinion to believe that the police (militia) consists of crooks and bribe-takers.

A colleague who also covers the work of the law-enforcement organs complained that she has been criticized for not reporting enough about policemen who are criminals. At the same time no one has ever expressed to her a similar "social demand" for reporting about highly-placed criminals in other spheres.

No, I am in no way voting for a return to the time of silence—so dear to the heart of many secretive creatures of the stagnant period. Glasnost is one of the ways to heal ourselves. But recent events, including those in Moscow, show what the "excesses" of this legal nihilism can lead to.

Nearly every day the log of events contains reports of attacks on policemen. It is up to the court to decide what kind of punishment the guilty parties receive for this. But the murderer of a policeman who was trying to stop a drunken brawl during the summer in the Taganskiy Rayon of the capital, was punished in a purely symbolic way: the murder was considered to be unpremeditated. And it turns out that stories like these have a shocking effect only on residents of those states which one is accustomed to consider as based on law. Major-General Belyanskiy, the deputy head of the GUV D (Main Administration of Internal Affairs) of the Mosgorispolkom (Moscow City Soviet Ispolkom) told how a police delegation from the USA found it simply incomprehensible that the murder and beatings of people from the law enforcement organs went virtually unpunished. These guests from another continent talked about how in their country it is considered a crime if even a finger is lifted against the police uniform.

There is an onslaught of outright gangsterism in the capital when, as documents testify, it is impossible to get into a taxi without being held up by robbers, when there is a shocking increase in all forms of crime against the person throughout the country; and charged with countering this onslaught are unarmed defenders of law and order. These contrasts existed long enough. Quite a few constructive measures have now been taken to defend not only Moscow residents but also those who protect their peace and quiet. All the GUV D operatives of the Moscow Gorispolkom have received firearms for 24-hour use. The city streets will be patrolled by policemen with dogs, as well as by policemen in cars, on foot and on horses. Special operational-investigational groups are being established to provide service during evening and night hours in all rayons.

Only time will tell whether this will help to achieve peace and quiet in the city. In the meantime it is worth recalling one of the recent episodes in which an armed gang, one of many "on tour" in the capital, was taken into custody. As it happened the members were taken at a very lively place—the Smolensk Quay. For a long time a group of MUR detectives had observed these suspicious citizens renting apartments in various regions of Moscow. The robbers would come to their secret points in the evening, always carrying things. There developed a suspicion that during the day they were robbing apartments. Later this was found to be the case—the group was caught red-handed. When MUR representative Andrey Fomin asked four men in a Zhiguli for their documents, one of them suddenly took out a pistol and fired. He missed purely by accident. But the very next second the weapon was knocked out of his hand, and the group of detectives, which included Vladimir Abramov, Aleksandr Chichinev, Konstantin Demchenko and Oleg

Ivanov, subdued the passengers. They all proved to be just as jumpy as their friend who had fired the shot, and they were all armed. A Beretta pistol, a revolver and a Browning are all in the best traditions of cowboy films. A search of the apartments they had rented revealed an entire arsenal—a Sudayev machine gun, several more revolvers and pistols, cartridges, grenades and smoke bombs.

"Do you feel yourself to be more protected when you go into a fight with armed robbers, now that you are armed?" I asked a group of detectives, who are part of a group of making captures.

"Any time we use a weapon there is an official investigation," they answered. Moreover, the instructions on its use are very contradictory. On the one hand, a pistol serves to protect citizens, as well as militia workers, if their life is in danger. And on the other hand, it cannot be used on crowded streets, squares and other public places.

But no such ban applies to the robbers. This is confirmed once again by episodes of criminal activity by a group which has been disarmed. The identities of the people who were part of it were established, despite their false documents. They were all included in the investigation. On the eve of the "Moscow tour" M. Mandzhvanidze, the "thief in the law," a recidivist who has been convicted many times, T. Rukhadze, and G. Tushishvili were involved in a racket in Saratov. A person who had been subjected to blackmail made a statement to the police. While hiding from prosecution, the robbers shot at employees of the law-enforcement organs. They themselves hid behind a woman taken as hostage and then a six-year old girl. A police sergeant was shot at close range and injured, and a man who tried to help was killed outright. It was only by pure accident that a grenade thrown into the crowd did not go off. Those were the "biographical highlights" of the passengers in the Zhiguli stopped at Smolensk Quay.

It would seem that the MUR staff members should be satisfied that they managed to subdue such a dangerous group without casualties. But this is not the end of it all. As everyone knows, attack is the best means of defense. And at all levels complaints are received about apartment searches (including those where grenades are found in the attic), during which things go missing. And while the complaints are being dealt with, time passes, and there will be something else which can be thought up. After all, every person who is arrested now, whether he has two higher degrees or never finished elementary school, writes virtually a carbon copy of a complaint about the "psychological effect" on him of the policemen and the preliminary investigators. And that is the best scenario. But there are also complaints about alleged beatings, thefts and violence. And every such complaint leads to a lengthy investigation.

The main point is to drag things out. And then, even if the case goes to court, it may be thrown out completely.

All this simple logic leads to a situation in which police workers and public prosecutors become demoralized and lose their aggressive edge.

"As a result of this we often feel divided in our consciousness," says Yu. Larichev, senior investigator for especially important cases in the Moscow Public Prosecutor's Office. On the one hand, I am sure that a person is a criminal, and on the other I am forced to stop proceedings "for lack of evidence," or "lack of facts of a crime" or even worse "lack of the event of a crime." And what can be done? All it takes is for a bribe taker, for example, to change his testimony, and the court will return the case for preliminary investigation.

In conversations with me the USSR deputy minister of internal affairs, Lieutenant-General P. Bordanov, head of the Main Administration of Internal Affairs of the Mosgorispolkom, spoke with concern about the declining prestige of the criminal investigator. Recently MUR has lost dozens of professional detectives. And in order to fill the staff positions in criminal investigation departments throughout the country, the higher police schools need more than just one year. According to the testimony of A. Yegorov, head of the Moscow Office of Criminal Investigation, in many cases low wages are the reason for the departures.

The public prosecutor carries out the investigation of the most serious crimes against a person. Have the employees of this department been found to be prepared to work under changed conditions; do they have sufficient resources to do the job? Is their fighting spirit high? Have they introduced new work methods to oppose the phenomena of organized crime? I posed these and other questions to V. Kruglov, the leader of the investigative-operative group charged with solving premeditated murder cases, and the deputy head of the investigative unit of the Moscow Municipal Prosecutor's Office. He considers that the sore points in the organization of the preliminary investigation were determined a long time ago, but that we are at least two years behind with the cure for these diseases.

V. Kruglov includes the following among the main negative phenomena in the legal-criminal sphere: the lack of stable judicial-investigatory practices, the de facto end to the application of a number of articles in the criminal legislation which no one has repealed, the extreme poverty of the material and scientific-technical support for investigators, and the artificial gap between the courts and the general tasks of the struggle against crime.

All this could not fail to have an effect on personnel involved with investigations. In the past year the army of investigators in the municipal and rayon prosecutors' offices has been reduced considerably. Many of those who remain have taken a wait-and-see position. A majority of the practitioners think that this process will

increase significantly if ill-considered decisions about the re-organization of the investigation procedure are made.

"We have been reduced (I cannot choose another term) to hiring on a massive scale people from other cities based on a quota. This practice has discredited itself at industrial enterprises and in the service sphere, and after all, investigative work, aside from purely professional preparation, requires a knowledge of the specific features of a particular region, the way of life and the nature of social relations." By this statement alone one can judge how prepared the investigation apparatus of the public prosecutor's office in our capital is to pass the test posed by the new phenomena. It is no accident that in the last year dozens of premeditated murders have gone unsolved.

As he came to the end of his reflections on the state of affairs in the struggle against crime, V. Kruglov, a practical man, who has been solving serious crimes against individuals for over 10 years, dwelt on a draft of the new fundamentals of criminal legislation. He made note of a number of proposed provisions, which in practice obviously will lead to artificial difficulties and to decisions which will contradict our morals and common sense. And in the end they will benefit only the criminals.

In the course of this discussion the voices of practicing lawyers were not heard at all. Subsequently quite a few statements were made in which the authors complained about the inadequate humanization of the criminal legislation. But while a heated discussion is going on as to whether or not society should be humane to its citizens, an absolutely distorted unilateral phenomenon has developed—so far humanism is being demonstrated only toward the criminals.

It seems to me that at the present time it makes sense to dwell on certain proposed innovations, the adoption of which will cause new complications and will hardly serve to benefit justice and society in general.

In particular, the practitioners are especially concerned about an article of the draft, which proposes to establish statutes of limitations for various categories of crimes, calculating them from the day of the violation. Due to the cumbersome nature of our legal proceedings, the unrestrained growth of formalism and chicanery, the open lack of desire on the part of many judges to take on cases which are difficult in terms of the structure of the evidence, the adoption of this article may lead to artificial failures to meet the deadlines specified by the law. And the latter may lead to the following: the greater the number of "serious transgressions" that an accused person has committed or the larger the criminal group, the more chances there will be to evade responsibility. And then what kind of struggle against organized crime can one talk about?

Just as categorical is the opinion of N. Ivanov, the senior investigator for especially important cases in the USSR

Prosecutor General's Office. He thinks that the introduction of statutes of limitations for bribery and theft only plays into the hands of the higher echelons of the mafia.

While all of this is being resolved, the situation in the city continues to be disturbing.

No Cause for Chernovtsy Illness Discovered

18120124 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English
No 37, 17-24 Sep 89 p 12

[Article by Vladimir Luskanov: "Intoxication: Why Do Chernovtsy Residents Believe Only Foreigners!"]

[Text] Children are going bald in Chernovtsy—the news swept the country in the autumn of 1988. The disease, unknown in the world, struck 165 people during a several-month period. The disease was accompanied by catarrhs, stomach pains, and nightmarish visions, which the physicians call "animal hallucination."

The disease spread quickly and unpredictably. Rumours started to spread about an ecological catastrophe. People began to panic, and yet the authorities didn't act. The local press kept silent (though not of its own will). Angry parents rushed to save their children themselves. They stormed the railway station, besieged the airport and battled to get a seat on a bus. No less than 40,000 out of 56,000 children were taken away from the city.

The schools were deserted and work practically stopped at enterprises. Chernovtsy staged meetings. Only when the number of patients started to exceed dozens, "fire brigades" from Moscow and Kiev started to head for Chernovtsy. Authoritative specialists declared that the cause of the trouble was a venting of highly-toxic substances into the air. The Regional Procurator's Office sought to find and punish those guilty of the emission. The shops started to offer special children's orders—caviar, instant coffee, fish delicacies, etc.

Today, one year later, case No 15/2171-88 has been stopped. The criminals have not been found. Neither were any clues discovered. The disease left Chernovtsy as abruptly as it arrived. The children returned to the city. The instant coffee and caviar disappeared. What remains is apprehensive fear and questions, for many of which there are as yet no answers.

"Unfortunately," Professor L. Sandulyak of Chernovtsy University, people's deputy of the USSR, said in a talk with a MOSCOW NEWS correspondent, "the behaviour of officials of state and Party organs in the emergency turned out to be typical. What happened in Chernobyl was repeated in Chernovtsy—obstinate attempts to hide the truth from the people, incompetence, and organizational helplessness. They even held a march on the anniversary of the Revolution, even though early in November no one could guarantee that the 'Chernovtsy disease' was not infectious."

Not a single leader and not a single chairman of the many commissions that were set up hastily to combat the sudden trouble had the courage or professional honesty to tell the truth: "The reasons for the disease are unknown to us therefore the situation is dangerous and we're forced to take emergency measures." They were afraid that the people "would not understand it properly."

I can say quite definitely that not only the people of Chernovtsy were in a state of panic but also those who were duty-bound to protect the population from such panic.

A commission from the USSR Ministry of Public Health, led by A. Baranov, Deputy Minister, came to Chernovtsy. The best specialists were included on it. The bald children were thoroughly examined and sent for treatment to Moscow and Kiev. Dozens of research institutes analyzed the air, water, soil, and the patients themselves. The version offered by the Ministry was poisoning by thallium. And it was confirmed! Reputable institutes from various regions of the USSR informed the commission that the probes sent to them had a high level of thallium. The entire country was immediately informed about this. There was a pat answer to the unknown disease: exogenous chemical intoxication, or, in plain words, poisoning by the rare and highly-toxic metal thallium. Victory! It is possible to report in the shortest possible time, at the price of tremendous efforts, etc. It is possible to start a criminal case and seek the felons who decided to attack the life of an entire city.

It would have been impermissible to write about the work done by a large number of specialists, who were invited to work on the problem at the first stage, in such a tone even now when it is clear that they were mistaken, if it were not for one circumstance.

G. Ivasyuk, chief of the investigation department of the Chernovtsy Region Procurator's Office, launched an investigation unprecedented in Soviet criminal practice. The 150 professionals, including KGB staff members, literally combined the entire city and its environs. Militia sergeants sealed all stores. Experienced auditors went through literally every line in reports. Chemists from Odessa and Ternopol scrupulously tested technological processes. A total of 247 enterprises and organizations were checked—there were no others. In the course of testing, a massive amount of shortcomings were discovered and dozens of officials were held administratively responsible. But there was no thallium anywhere. The Republican bureau of forensic medicine checked the analyses from the ill children. There were excess amounts of chromium and boron, though the tests on the control group of healthy children gave similar results. Therefore, the experts do not as yet have grounds to think that the "Chernovtsy disease" was caused by poisoning by these elements. But no thallium was discovered either in the patients, or the healthy children.

But it had been, if we're to believe the Institute of Organic Chemistry of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences in Kiev, the Institute of Nuclear Physics of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, and the Research Institute of Applied Molecular Biology and Genetics in Moscow.

"We've scrupulously rechecked all the facts and arrived at the conclusion that these studies were performed incorrectly, to put it mildly," says G. Ivasyuk.

In other words, the results were made to fit the answer decided upon before.

"The city residents, not trusting our specialists, demand that we invite independent medical experts from WHO. Even though, as I think, there was no necessity for this, we decided to do so," A. Baranov wrote in one of his press items. The residents were not just demanding. An appeal for immediate aid went to the West through Dutch journalists in Moscow. At the end of April, toxicologists from the Netherlands came to Chernovtsy at the official invitation of the USSR Ministry of Public Health.

It took two scientists from WHO only three days to disprove the hypothesis of the USSR Ministry of Public Health which had been the basis of investigation for a whole six months. The independent experts completely excluded the possibility of poisoning by thallium. But they couldn't do more than that. There was too little to work on and too much time had passed.

The Chernovtsy problem hasn't been solved to this day from the medical point of view. The huge machine operated with fanfare but without results. Today there is no precise diagnosis of the disease. At least, it is not known in Chernovtsy. The impressive programme of research by the Ministry of Public Health hasn't produced any tangible results to this day, except for one—the information that had been obtained with such difficulty has been spread out among separate institutes, and no generalizations are possible.

Fortunately, there are no further cases of baldness among children since late last November. Fortunately, the life of the 165 patients is not in danger, and their hair started to grow again. But not a single physician can give a long-term forecast about the state of their health.

What causes alarm is that cases of partial baldness are becoming more frequent. Formerly this disease was rare and no attention was paid to it. Now we have to. According to official statistics in Chernovtsy 220 children and 51 adults have become partially bald in the seven months of this year. But is this a different disease or a softer, weakened version of the "chemical" disease, as it is called in Chernovtsy? There is alarming news from other regions of the USSR where cases of partial baldness are being registered—Mariupol, Kemerovo and Sillamae. In November 1988, I. Nesteruk, senior research associate of Chernovtsy University, has proved,

quite convincingly, with the aid of mathematical calculations, that in the first stage, before the patients were hospitalized, the "Chernovtsy disease" had been spreading just like any other epidemics does. There were plenty of warnings of possible infection, but they were ignored and no quarantine was instituted. The main argument against the disease's biological origin is that its agent wasn't discovered. But maybe the search was inadequate.

But the greater alarm is caused by the fact that the incompetence and lack of restraint expressed by the authorities in the first days of the tragedy, turned the purely medical problem into a political problem. The obstinate reluctance to regard the public as an ally and outright misinformation have led to confrontation. The Chernovtsy residents do not believe a single word from the Ministry of Public Health, or the Regional Public Health Committee, and have no trust in the Party and economic managers.

Nine thousand Chernovtsy residents added their signatures to a short appeal to set up an independent commission in the city and to invite foreign specialists. Twenty mothers sent a telegram to the Congress of People's Deputies which read: "A crime against childhood is occurring in the Chernovtsy Region." An interest group from the Chernovtsy branch of the Ukrainian Popular Movement for Perestroika sends appeals for help to WHO and the League of the Red Cross Societies. Five hundred residents wrote applications with their consent to work abroad and donate their wages to the purchase of foreign laboratory equipment. A meeting held in Chernovtsy on August 26 adopted a resolution demanding the removal of the leaders of the Ukrainian Ministry of Public Health.

Such are the consequences of trying to decide for the people what they would and would not "understand."

Belorussian Health Ministry Holding Up Chernobyl Relief Money

18001586 Minsk SOVETSKAYA BELORUSSIYA
in Russian 20 Aug 89 p 4

[Article by A. Kryzhanovskiy: "Very Necessary Assistance"]

[Text] The Belorussian Telegraph Agency has reported numerous times on the need to pay special attention to the health of children living in the zone of increased background radioactivity. The following fact has come to light: the USSR Ministry of Health, notwithstanding the fact that the USSR Gosplan allotted 980,000 rubles in hard currency of the first category for the needs of Belorussian medicine, has withheld the delivery of these funds to the republic. At the same time, far away Melbourne responded to the appeal for assistance. The general director of the Australian firm, Rappoportim-port, F. Rappoport, charitably offered his services; medical equipment needed by the Belorussian SSR Ministry of Health was offered at a reduction of almost 100,000

dollars. Having received such a favorable offer, Belorussian medical representatives went to Moscow three times for the hard currency. But in vain...

A BELTA correspondent was informed by the Belorussian SSR Council of Ministers Administration of Affairs that after the "commotion" caused by the press, all the hard currency will be transferred to the account of the Belorusintorg foreign trade association. Understandably, this amount cannot fully satisfy the hard currency requirements of Belorussian medicine. The Belorussian SSR Ministry of Health Institute of Radiation Medicine alone needs 2 million for technical equipment. Enterprises and institutions which have hard currency can make their charitable contributions to account number 95000005 at the Minsk branch, Belorussian republic bank of the USSR Vneshekonombank.

Anonymous VD Treatment Now Available in Georgia

18130064 Tbilisi AKHALGAZRDA KOMUNISTI
in Georgian 6 Apr 89 p 3

[Article by Professor Luba Shetsiruli: "AIDS—The 20th Century's Black Plague"]

[Text] The 2 February 1989 edition of KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA published an article, "Intimate?" which discussed efforts to combat one of today's most urgent social problems—venereal diseases—and methods of taking care of sufferers of VD. In this time of perestroika, it is undoubtedly very urgent and timely to discuss in a youth newspaper the spread and prevention of venereal diseases. The author of the article quite rightly raises issues concerning refashioning and humanizing the work methods of VD treatment centers, protecting the secrets of the victims, further improving hygiene propaganda work, and supplying the population with individual prophylactic measures. The article focuses especially on the fact that physicians' underground private practice has a negative effect on efforts to combat VD. As an example of this, the author cites only the example of Georgia:

[in Russian] "And what is there to be proud about in the fact that in Georgia, for example, the private sector of treatment is very widespread." [end of Russian text]

Recently, more and more VD patients have complained that their confidences have been revealed; this is the result of the discourtesy, callousness, and irresponsibility of certain medical personnel. It is a matter that requires great tact, and the visiting nurse must be a true sister of mercy who has a good understanding of the unpleasantness that can result from even one tactless word (breaking up a happy home, unpleasantness on the job or with friends and neighbors, and so on). Violations in this regard committed by VD treatment centers must be counted one of the worse defects of their work.

It is an unfortunate fact that cases of private VD treatment have increased dramatically in the past eight to 10

years. Patients are being treated not only by venerologists, urologists, gynecologists, sexologists, and mid-level medical personnel, but also by non-medics. Also worth noting is the fact that 15 or 20 years ago, patients were treated in private offices by qualified, authoritative, well-known specialists who were registered in the financial offices. After dermatologists and venerologists were forbidden to engage in private practice, however, underground practice began to spread, often engaged in by young and mid-level unqualified physicians and non-specialists. As a result of this kind of treatment, the disease's acute and early form mostly goes into its chronic and latent form; the disease progresses and complications develop. It is just these forms which have become more frequent in recent years. A study of the reasons for their development has shown that most of the patients are being treated privately. This is only natural, because in private treatment, patients do not undergo dispensary observation. Once the outward symptoms disappear, the patient thinks he is healthy and does not continue the treatment. When subjected to prophylactic examination, such patients turn out to be suffering from late forms of the disease. In a sample of childless couples which we investigated, 58 percent of the women and 33 percent of the men were found to have chronic gonorrhea with a variety of grave complications. Such patients seek private treatment not because they consider the physicians to be better qualified but because they are afraid of having to reveal their identity and secrets if they resort to specialized establishments. They have good reason to fear this, of course, but it is also well known that such information becomes publicly known primarily when the patient stops treatment or fails to maintain monitoring and check-up regimens. After all, the treatment center begins to search for and call the patient only in such cases. Why should it be necessary to summon the patient? Why can't he carry out the doctor's instructions? Some 50 percent of infected men conceal the fact that they are married and have children, so that the doctor is obliged to check the patient's passport not only to determine the truth but also in order to attempt to completely clean up the source of the disease. Otherwise, if a man is cured and goes home and gets infected again from his wife, it takes two or three times longer to treat him than if they had been treated at the same time during the initial stages.

We have decided that receiving patients anonymously is a very effective way to provide them with medical help, investigate sexually transmitted venereal and nonvenereal diseases, and treat them. For this purpose, by way of experiment, an anonymous office was set up in 1988 in association with the Consultation and Polyclinic Department of the Institute for Skin and Venereal Diseases (55 Ninoshvili Street). This office will be in operation until the end of this year. Anonymous reception of patients is the best way to compete with underground treatment, and the advantages of this form over private treatment include the fact that in the anonymous office the patients are received free of charge and treated by qualified specialists; use is made of the latest methods of diagnosis

and treatment; the physicians in this office can detect 30 to 40 percent of the infection sources and sexual contacts, the investigation of which is also conducted anonymously; the patient drop-out rate does not exceed 15 to 20 percent; and, another example, according to our data the proportion of office workers and people with a higher education does not exceed 10 to 12 percent of persons registered in the VD treatment centers, because they are mainly resorting to private treatment. In the anonymous office, they make up 50 to 55 percent of the registered patients. As we mentioned, treatment in the office is free and confidentiality is completely guaranteed.

In short, as a result of additional integrated measures against the spread of venereal diseases in the republic, syphilis rates dropped by 16.5 percent in 1988 compared with the previous year, and the rate of gonorrhea declined by 21 percent. Nevertheless, the intensive syphilis rate is five times the all-union average and, unfortunately, Georgia still remains in first place in the USSR. These indicators are high in Abkhazia, Tbilisi, Kutaisi, Zugdidi, Tskaltubo, Dusheti, Lanchkhuti, Mtskheta, and elsewhere.

A study of various aspects of the epidemiology of venereal diseases has shown that these infections are spread mainly by drifters, unemployed and immoral people, 70 to 75 percent of whom are from other cities and republics. Cases of infection have increased in dens of vice. Centers of this sort should be detected by militia inspectors, but it is mostly the VD treatment centers that are doing the job, by questioning patients. The "mistresses" of these centers are even enticing minors into their dens of vice, thus fostering the spread of venereal diseases among adolescents.

I'd like to portray one other picture that is well known to many. On the streets or in cafes and restaurants you will see young women of doubtful reputation, with painted faces and dressed provocatively, who look like they are from someplace else, here looking for Georgian youths. This does not go unnoticed by our kids, who follow the women, soon engage them in conversation, and then they proceed together. At this point let's recall the notorious case of the immoral Sulaberidze of Batumi, who was seduced by the totally immoral woman who came down to Georgia, and how we Georgians were slandered because of it.

It needs to be pointed out here that the urgent epidemiological situation in the republic goes beyond VD. Even more alarming is the fact that the population of Georgia is at especially high risk of AIDS, because the danger of the introduction and spread of AIDS in the republic, as we have mentioned above, is due not only to increased migration processes but also to the increase in the number of foreign students in Tbilisi (some of whom come from countries where AIDS is widespread), the spread of narcotics addiction and homosexuality, and the slackening of efforts against prostitution. Also to be considered is the fact that in addition to the sharp rise in cases of AIDS worldwide, the virus that causes AIDS is

also circulating more widely in the Soviet Union. At present, there are 542 virus carriers in the Soviet Union, including 147 Soviet citizens; in April 1988 there were not more than 50.

Quite extraordinary was the January 1989 report that 49 AIDS carriers were detected simultaneously in the Republic Children's Hospital of Elista, the capital city of the Kalmyk Autonomous Republic; they included 41 children under the age of two, one donor, and the mother of four of the sick children. It turned out that the first child infected with the virus in that hospital was discovered in November. Next the virus was found in a donor woman, whose blood was given to a sick child. It was found that the children in the hospital were infected from one unsterilized needle. Gross violations were found in disinfection procedures for other instruments as well. The children were given blood directly from the mother without checking the mothers, and mostly blood made from the mixed serums of eight to 11 donors was used in the transfusion. Hence, the above-mentioned emergencies resulted from the criminal neglect of the medical personnel. That's why it is so important to ensure that the whole Georgian public—in particular medical personnel—be maximally aware of disease prevention and preparedness for danger.

In the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases, including venereal diseases and AIDS, it is extremely important to combat such social phenomena as prostitution, drunkenness, homosexuality, narcotics addiction, and other factors which require systematic, uncompromising struggle. It is essential that all of society and every individual citizen work out an active, uncompromising stance against these negative phenomena.

A well-formulated system is essential not only to detect them but also to institute further observation of them; otherwise, women discharged from venereal disease clinics will return to their customary quarters or the streets. According to psychologists' data, women of this category find it hard to return from acquired stereotypes to normal life and cannot resist the old temptation. Yet practically nothing is being done to re-educate them.

In dealing with this grave and shameful social problem, it is primarily young people who need to get involved. Our praiseworthy young people, who are so daring and resourceful in regard to a number of national concerns, should devote the same kind of energy to establishing a healthy way of life and habits of morality. Georgian girls must never betray their womanly virtue, nor Georgian youths their manly virtue. If it does happen, the young person must immediately (preferably within two hours) go to a day-and-night prophylactic station (located in the VD clinic in every rayon of the city, on the grounds of the university dormitories, and elsewhere), or if this is not possible, the young person should seek the appropriate advice the next day at a VD treatment center or the Institute's anonymous office, rather than go to a private physician.

In conclusion, let me remind you once more that the most reliable preventive against these diseases is moral chastity—avoid casual intimate contact. Everyone needs to be aware of the danger of AIDS, because medical people alone cannot conquer this social problem without the help and support of all of society.

Georgian VD Specialist Interviewed on AIDS Threat

*18130071 Tbilisi KOMUNISTI in Georgian
17 May 89 p 4*

[Interview with Professor Luba Shetsiruli by N. Baratashvili, head of KOMUNISTI Science and Culture Department: "It's Time To Wake Up! AIDS and Venereal Diseases Are More Than Merely a Medical Problem"]

[Text] Some years ago a new worry was added to the anticipation of nuclear catastrophe and natural disasters that concern mankind. "AIDS is the nightmare of the 20th century," "the 20th century's black plague"; "the race of man has never faced such a treacherous enemy"; "there's no cure in sight!" These are the moans of despair that fill the airwaves and the newspapers and magazines.

According to World Health Organization data, as of 1 March 1989 there were 142,000 cases of AIDS in 145 countries. Specialists believe that the figure is much higher—from 5 to 10 million.

The developed countries are allocating huge appropriations to fight this lethal disease. Efforts are being made to warn the public, to prevent the disease (so far, unfortunately, no effective cure yet exists, and none appears likely in the near future). The mass media are devoting considerable space to publicity and explanation.

Recently, the well-known American scientist (Kh. Kautler) published a monograph titled "Syphilis and AIDS," in which he claims that "syphilis fosters the spread of AIDS" and states that 20 percent of syphilis sufferers in New York were found to have AIDS as well.

Disquieting and ominous articles have been published in the all-union press (consider, for example, Lev Khakhalin's article in SEMYA). All-union TV has also devoted a number of thought-provoking and mobilizing programs recently to the prevention of AIDS.

"Well, then, why aren't we sounding the alarm? Do we think we're somehow immune and that this dread disease will spare our young people, our children, or anyone else?" This is the question N. Baratashvili, head of the newspaper's science and culture department, put to Professor Luba Shetsiruli.

[Shetsiruli] Quite the contrary: I'm convinced that we have the most to fear, because the republic is still in first place in the USSR with regard to the spread of venereal diseases (although thanks to urgent measures, syphilis has dropped by 26.5 percent and gonorrhea has dropped

by 24 percent). In addition, Georgia is a land of resorts, and migration is rising year by year. Moreover, the number of foreign students is going up here, and some of them are from countries where AIDS is widespread. Perhaps you recall—much has been written about it—that the spread of AIDS is fostered by narcotics addiction, prostitution, and homosexuality, and efforts against them have not been very effective so far.

[Baratashvili] How do things stand now in the country in regard to the spread of AIDS?

[Shetsiruli] So far, 176 Soviet citizens have been found to have the fatal disease. Exactly one year ago last April the figure was not over 50.

[Baratashvili] AIDS opened a tragic page in this country on 5 September 1988, when a 29-year-old woman student died in a Leningrad hospital.

[Shetsiruli] For 10 years prior to her death she engaged in prostitution, often with foreigners. During the autopsy they found she was four weeks' pregnant, which indicates that the diseased woman was continuing to spread the AIDS virus. A total of 81 of her sex partners were tracked down, and two of them were youths from Tbilisi. How many people are now threatened with this grave disease is impossible to determine. A child died of AIDS in Odessa, and, like the woman student, he was diagnosed after the autopsy. He had contracted it from his mother.

These facts confirm beyond all doubt that the AIDS virus has existed in latent form in the Soviet Union for several years, and this reinforces our fears that it has been brought into our republic and spread undetected.

[Baratashvili] As far as we know, the AIDS virus is spread in three ways.

[Shetsiruli] Right: by sexual contact, blood, and from mother to child. The foreign press has published numerous reports of people being infected through the blood of donors or blood serum. Experts have recorded AIDS cases of that type in Denmark, Great Britain, Austria, Japan, the FRG, and elsewhere. The virus is also circulating in the U.S. blood bank. It has been found that more than 2000 persons in the FRG have been infected with AIDS by serum prepared by U.S. pharmaceutical companies from donors' blood. The companies buy the blood very cheaply in countries where AIDS, hepatitis, and parasitic infections are widespread. In Japan, 40 percent of hemophiliacs were found to have AIDS after making serum purchased from America. In Texas, one donor infected with AIDS gave blood 48 times at a commercial blood bank in the space of 10 months, and 65,000 ampules of serum were made from it. By the time he was diagnosed as having AIDS, 80 percent of the serum had been used.

[Baratashvili] A terrible tragedy took place in our country too—41 children and their eight mothers came down with the disease in Elista, the capital of the

Kalmyk ASSR! As I recall, one of the mothers was a donor, and her husband had been on a lengthy trip abroad.

[Shetsiruli] The tragedy in Elista took place because of the irresponsibility of the local hospital personnel. The sick children were being injected using a single unsterilized hypodermic (all they did was change the needle). And when an injection is made, it is impossible for the hypodermic not to suck up at least one tiny drop of blood.... Recently, in May, another center of AIDS came to light: Volgograd Hospital No 7 turned out to have 10 virus-carrying children aged one-and-a-half to 10. This was also the fault of the local medical personnel. Concerning the event IZVESTIYA wrote, "In contrast to the U.S. and Europe, the 20th century's black plague has blazed its own unique path here, thanks to the health service's backwardness, irresponsibility, and bungling. They stick patients with anything that comes to hand and—voila—AIDS..."

[Baratashvili] Not long ago, the shaving of beards was banned in Moscow's barber shops.

[Shetsiruli] And rightly so; the risk is too great. If an AIDS sufferer is cut while being shaved and the barber doesn't sterilize his razor, the customers that come after are in mortal danger. The same danger attends manicures and pedicures, tattooing, the piercing of ears, and the application of leeches that have already been used. Any implement needs to be sterilized specially after use; that is an elementary truth. Neglecting it is a serious crime.

But the main thing we ought to be sounding the alarm about now is an immediate and implacable battle against VD. Research in our institute has shown that such infections are spread mainly by wandering, unemployed, immoral persons, 40-50 percent of whom have come into our republic from outside. It must be noted, however, that this category of people has also increased among our own local population. Cases of infection have risen in vice dens. We have found out these centers chiefly by interrogating infected persons in VD clinics. Did you read that article in MEDITSINSKAYA GAZETA last year (4 November 1988), called "Girls From Nowhere," about the vice dens in Ashkhabad, the capital of Turkmenia? Journalists tracked down those houses with the help of the mother of a wayward girl. They were "staffed" chiefly by under-aged girls, who earned 100 rubles from each client. Most of their earnings went to the "madam." One house had the services of a physician. The madams were in contact with each other and even exchanged personnel (the militia knew the addresses of several dozen houses but didn't do anything). The author of the article was astonished: "And this in a republic where women have been distinguished from time immemorial by their moral rectitude, reserve, and sense of dignity." And doesn't that ring a bell?

Unfortunately, we have seen a rise in immoral juveniles here as well, lately, and VD is increasing among adolescents. It looks like the militia, public education organs, the Komsomol, and other organizations are unable to take any decisive steps to stop it. They haven't been able to catch the juveniles and the parents who have set a bad example to teenagers by their own behavior.

Another thing that fosters the spread of VD is the fact that there has been a big increase in private treatment over the past 10 years. All kinds of people besides venerologists are involved in this "lucrative endeavor": urologists, gynecologists, sexologists, mid-level medical personnel, and even—imagine if you can—non-medical people! Infected persons undergoing private treatment remain outside of clinical observation, they think they're cured once the outward symptoms go away, and they discontinue the treatment.

[Baratashvili] Could it be that patients turn to private practitioners because they think they're better qualified?

[Shetsiruli] No. They don't want to reveal their identity or their secret. Some 20-30 years ago, patients were treated in private offices by qualified specialists well known to the public. Along with qualified treatment the patient received assurance of confidentiality. Later, however, dermato-venerologists were forbidden to engage in private practice and so they "went underground." Except that now, very often, unqualified rather than qualified specialists are involved.

[Baratashvili] Do you see any way out of this grave situation?

[Shetsiruli] Yes I do. Just last year we set up an experimental, anonymous reception office in association with the polyclinic consultative department of the Scientific-Research Institute for Skin and Venereal Diseases (located at 55 Ninoshvili Street, Tbilisi). It is an excellent form of competing with underground practitioners, and here's why: Treatment is free, and confidentiality is guaranteed. The office is staffed by highly qualified personnel, and the latest diagnostic and treatment methods are used.

[Baratashvili] The AIDS examination office is also anonymous, I believe, isn't it?

[Shetsiruli] Tbilisi presently has two anonymous offices where people can be examined for AIDS. One is associated with the Republic Infectious Diseases Hospital, the other is associated with the Black Plague Station. There are 10 specialized diagnostic laboratories in the larger cities of Georgia, with five to be added very soon.

[Baratashvili] Have many citizens been examined?

[Shetsiruli] More than 350,000. In particular, all blood donors and pregnant women. As for the so-called "high-risk group"—whores, homosexuals, narcotics addicts and drunks—they are less likely to be examined.

It is a social woe that every citizen ought to wage battle against. I think it will require a well-organized system which will not only detect such persons but will also take care of straightening them out. Otherwise, women who have been discharged from the VD clinics go back out in the streets; they can't resist the temptation. Yet nothing is being done to make them go straight.

We can moan and groan all we want that we are not ready to handle AIDS, that we don't have enough disposable hypodermics and other supplies, that the necessary propaganda isn't being provided. But whining won't help. It's time to come to our senses and each one do his job. Let's keep in mind that the most reliable prevention for VD is moral purity: Avoid casual intimate contacts! Everyone needs to know about the danger of AIDS before it's too late, because medical people alone cannot solve this social problem alone, without a lot of support and help.

[Baratashvili] I recall something else from that article in SEMYA: "AIDS is much more dangerous for our country than for the developed countries. There are many factors in our country tending to promote the progress of the disease. Here they are: Wretched medicine multiplied by an extremely low standard of living of almost half the population multiplied by the population's low level of culture multiplied by the irresponsibility of local party, state, and medical officials." I'm almost convinced that about 2-4 years from now, unless we undertake extraordinary measures, AIDS in this country will become not just an epidemic but a pandemic (a nationwide epidemic). And then the survival of all the peoples in our country will be at stake.

[Shetsiruli] I too was shaken by that article, and unfortunately there's no way to solve it unless we all join the fight. It's time to wake up!

Kirghiz SSR Population Checked for AIDS

*18330019a Frunze SOVETIK KYRGYZSTAN
in Kirghiz 16 May 89 p 4*

[Article by Professor M. Kitayev: "Infectious AIDS: A Nuclear Disaster In Itself"]

[Text] The spread of the AIDS calamity began in the U.S. in the 1980s and, within the next two or three years, arrived in West Europe. At the present time this disease has been recorded in 139 countries of the world. The number of those infected with AIDS has passed 110 thousand. The World Health Organization estimates that the number of those infected with AIDS increased five times over three years. Close to 10 million people have been exposed to it or endangered by it, and this number grows geometrically every year.

According to Academician V. I. Pokrovskiy, president of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences, the scope of the AIDS epidemic, in terms of its medical, social, economic and political problems, can be compared with a nuclear

disaster. This disease requires an expenditure for the American people of 64 milliard dollars for one year alone.

AIDS has come to our country from regions abroad with inadequate epidemiological controls. At the moment there are a few hundred people infected with AIDS among us. The majority of them are foreigners. Four such people have been confirmed in Kirghizia. They were found among foreign citizens who were living temporarily in our republic. They have been expelled from the country.

Recently one of those infected with AIDS came to us from Tanzania. In a blood test AIDS antibodies were found. Another physical examination and blood test in one of the scientific centers in Moscow confirmed this diagnosis. It is well known that the AIDS antibody appears from two weeks to three months after contact. That means that it is indisputable that the Tanzanian citizen was infected in his own country.

In the USSR an AIDS program has been worked out and is being implemented. Recently we passed a law permitting obligatory medical examinations for AIDS. It provides a legal right to seek out carriers of this virus. It imposes a criminal penalty on those who have it and knowingly spread it.

Now we are only at the beginning stages of the spread of AIDS. Three hundred and eighty laboratories for the diagnosis of AIDS have been established in republic and oblast centers and in large cities. At the end of the year there will be more than a thousand. Such specialized laboratories have been opened in Frunze, Talas, Przheval'sk, Naryn, Osh and Jalalabad. The basic testing method is blood testing for AIDS antibodies. A person infected with this disease can go on quietly without symptoms. He can live without knowing that he has been infected and, in this way, spread the disease.

Recently close to 300 thousand people from Frunze and every rayon in the republic have been examined. The majority of them were pregnant women and blood donors. The rest of them were foreign citizens studying at educational institutions and those at high risk; in other words, drug users, homosexuals, those registered at venereal disease clinics, the sexually promiscuous and

hemophiliacs. Other than these, people who are sick according to clinical records. In addition, we wish to remind you that all those who wish it or who are not on any register can be examined anonymously. An anonymous AIDS examination point has been opened at the clinical immunology laboratory at the consultative cardiological clinic (Logvinenko Street 24, Room 218).

AIDS is a special virus which destroys the immune system. The person contaminated with it loses the ability to fight against certain infectious or harmful diseases, and dies. A person infected with AIDS is considered to be the source of infection. It is possible for the virus to enter the bloodstream through broken skin or in a transfusion of uninspected blood. Sexual relations with a person carrying or infected with AIDS is considered the most common way of spreading it. It is possible for the virus to spread from man to woman, from woman to man and from man to man. A pregnant woman can pass it to her child.

Recently it has been established that the AIDS virus can pass from the mother to the child by means of the mother's milk. If the mother becomes ill with AIDS after giving birth, the child will also become infected. Drunkenness also indicates a precondition for infectious disease.

AIDS is an incurable disease. However, one can keep oneself safe from infection. If one leads a cautious life, avoids chance sexual encounters and relationships with homosexuals and drug addicts, one can protect oneself against it. The use of a condom reduces the chance of AIDS infection. The use of nondisposable needles or injectors does not help.

One must bear in mind that exposure to an AIDS carrier is not dangerous in ordinary life. The AIDS virus is not passed on when exchanging greetings, conversing, coughing, sneezing, eating from common plates, using a common bathroom, toilet, basin or sauna, or living in one room.

Up until now we have been successful in the struggle against AIDS. Bearing in mind that at present there is no shot against this infectious disease and no medicines that cure it, we must remember that the basic way of stopping the epidemic is preventing infection.

Belorussian People's Front Requests Registration

Supsov Examines Application

18001702a Minsk SOVETSKAYA BELORUSSIYA
in Russian 10 Sep 89 p 1

[Unattributed report: "In the Presidium of the BSSR Supreme Soviet"]

[Text] On 13 July 1989 the Presidium of the Belorussian SSR Supreme Soviet received a letter from the chairman of the soym of the Belorussian Peoples' Front [BNF], Z.S. Poznyak, containing a request to register the charter of the Belorussian People's Front. Since many articles of the charter that was submitted contain references to the program of the People's Front, it was suggested that this program also be submitted to the Presidium of the BSSR Supreme Soviet, and it came on 18 July of this year.

The BSSR Council of Ministers, the Belorussian republic trade union council, the republic's legal protection organs, and the BSSR Academy of Sciences were asked for their opinion about the documents that were submitted. When they were analyzed it turned out that many provisions contained in the documents do not agree with the BSSR Constitution or legislation. The Presidium of the BSSR Supreme Soviet agreed with the prepared conclusions on the BNF charter and program.

On 25 August of this year BNF representatives Z.S. Poznyak, M.A. Tkachev, and Yu.V. Khodyko were invited to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet. It was recommended that they bring the charter and the program in line with the BSSR Constitution and republic legislation.

But on 6 September of this year the Presidium of the BSSR Supreme Soviet received a letter from Z.S. Poznyak in which, on behalf of the BNF, he disagreed with the conclusion regarding the charter.

The Presidium of the BSSR Supreme Soviet considered Z.S. Poznyak's letter and conducted an additional study of the documents submitted on 13 and 18 July 1989 and confirmed the conclusions arrived at previously concerning the BNF charter and program.

Front's Charter Examined

18001702b Minsk SOVETSKAYA BELORUSSIYA
in Russian 10 Sep 89 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Conclusion on Charter of Belorussian Peoples' Front For Restructuring 'Adradzhenne'"]

[Text] In keeping with the decree of the Presidium of the BSSR TsIK [Central Executive Committee] of 3 May 1932 which is still in force, "On the Policy for Approving Charters of Nonprofit Societies and Unions, the Procedure for Their Registration, and Supervision of Them,"

the charters of societies and unions not linked to departments are submitted for the consideration of the Presidium of the TsIK and are registered in the secretariat of the Presidium of the BSSR TsIK. But the charter of the BNF submitted for registration to the Presidium of the BSSR Supreme Soviet is not the charter of a voluntary society or union but essentially the charter of a political party which has as its goal, under the cover of perestroika slogans, to make its way into all organs of state power, social organizations, people's control organs, labor collectives, and other social structures in order to oppose its activity to that of the communist party, on whose initiative and under whose leadership perestroika is being conducted. It says in the charter that the BNF "nominates its own candidate deputies and supports other candidates who have a democratic platform...," "participates in elections of eladers of enterprises and institutions, labor collective councils, and other elective organs, nominates its own candidates in them, exercises social control over the activity of executive organs of power, and participates in the work of people's control organs," "raises questions of recalling deputies and other elected officials, and expresses social mistrust..." BNF support groups are "created in the place of work, school, service, residence, and in independent associations, societies, and cooperatives..." The BNF charter points out that social societies and associations, all of whose participants recognize the program and charter of the BNF and wish to participate in the Adradzhenne movement are accepted into the BNF as support groups. The structure of the BNF, by a decision of the soym or the congress, can include other sociopolitical organizations if their goals and activity do not contradict the program provisions of the BNF.

From the content of the BNF charter it follows that this organization intends for its influence to cover all aspects of the life of the society. "The purpose of the BNF," it is written in the charter, "is to protect the interests of the people, to incite public initiative and the social activity of the people, to develop their political and legal culture and social and national awareness..." And further. "The BNF Adradzhenne studies and analyzes the situation in all spheres of economic, political, social, and cultural life of Belorussia, earmarks ways and possibilities of solving problems, develops and implements its own economic, cultural, and political measures and initiatives..." "arranges the study of public opinion, conducts social research, creates independent expert commissions concerning the most important issues of the life of the society, organizes public discussion of crucial socioeconomic and national-cultural problems, debates, meetings, conferences, seminars, people's universities, courses, discussion clubs..." and so forth.

The preamble of the charter declares that the "BNF operates within the framework of the constitution and laws of the BSSR." But subsequent points of the charter contain a number of norms that do not agree with the constitution or existing legislation.

Thus the draft of the charter and especially the BNF program violate the provisions of the BSSR Constitution concerning equal rights of citizens, regardless of racial or national affiliation in all areas of economic, political, social, and cultural life, and instead of the concept of the people of the Belorussian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] established by the constitution, it introduces a division of the citizens into indigenous population and national minorities, which inevitably leads to violation of people's equal rights, discrimination against many people because of their national affiliation, and incitement of national animosity.

The BNF does not recognize the leading role of the Communist Party in the life of the Soviet society, which is shown by the points of the charter that contradict constitutional principles to the effect that "the BNF is an autonomous formation which acts independently and is not subordinate to any organizations or institutions." This point also stands in contradiction to the authority of the soviets of people's deputies which, according to the constitution, have all state power and also the authority of other state organs, and it is directed toward making the BNF an organization that is completely independent of the existing political system, legislation, and the decisions of state organs, procurator supervision, and so forth.

The charter includes norms of a clearly discriminatory nature with respect to released party, Komsomol [All-Union Leninist Communist Youth League], and trade union workers who, according to the charter, "can be only rank-and-file members of support groups." These norms contradict the constitutional provisions concerning the equal rights of citizens in all areas of economic, political, social, and cultural life.

In the section entitled "Activity of the BNF Adradzhenne" it is indicated that the BNF participates in public monitoring of the course of the election campaign. But legislation stipulates that social organizations have the right to participate in preparing for and conducting elections of people's deputies and the representatives of these organizations may be present at meetings of the election commissions. Social organizations are not granted the right to monitor the course of the election campaign.

Here it is mentioned that the BNF provides public monitoring of the activity of executive organs of power. But the rights of the social organization with respect to power organs (the more so the right to monitor the activity of the latter) can be gained by the social organization only on the basis of a legislative act.

A similar objection is provoked by the provision that stipulates that the BNF checks on the fulfillment in the Belorussian SSR of international agreements and packages for the protection of civil, political, and social rights and for the protection of human rights and freedoms. Here one should keep in mind that the general monitoring of the fulfillment of international agreements by

the USSR and the Belorussian SSR is carried out by the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the BSSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, respectively.

In the section entitled "BNF Activity" it is pointed out that the BNF "also engages in the necessary economic activity" and in the section entitled "Property and Finances" it determines that funds from "economic activity" are one of the sources of monetary revenue. But the charter does not reveal the content or forms of BNF economic activity. But in order for this activity to be evaluated for correctness, it must be presented succinctly and clearly in the charter.

The charter's indication that the BNF uses a white, red, and white flag is also incorrect. By an ukase of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet of 15 August 1980, "On Flags and Banners of State and Social Organs, Organizations, and Officials," and the ukase of the same name of the Presidium of the BSSR Supreme Soviet of 9 April 1981 it is established that it is not permitted to use flags that are not registered through the established procedure. (Registration of flags is the responsibility of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs). Moreover, it must be taken into account that attempts to use this flag evoke justifiable protests and disturbance of the population since during the period of fascist occupation of Belorussia this flag was the symbol of the fascist nationalist armed formations created by the occupation troops who did violence to the people.

The BNF charter says nothing about the responsibilities of its participants to observe the USSR Constitution, the BSSR Constitution, or Soviet laws or to respect the rules of Soviet communal living. Yet this requirement, which pertains to all Soviet citizens, should be envisioned in the charter.

In the concluding provisions of the BNF charter it is necessary to stipulate that a decision to curtail the activity of the BNF can be adopted not only by the BNF congress but also by the organ that registers the charter.

Front's Program Examined

*18001702c Minsk SOVETSKAYA BELORUSSIYA
in Russian 10 Sep 89 p 1*

[Unattributed report: "Conclusion on Program of Belorussian People's Front 'Adradzhenne'"]

[Text] The provisions of the BNF program should be evaluated from the standpoint of their correspondence to the interests of all segments and groups of the population and the tasks of democratization of social institutions (while retaining legality and law and order) and free development of nations and nationalities within the framework of a socialist federation.

On the Section "Sovereignty"

This section gives a confused definition of the sovereignty of Belorussia as an inseparable unity of national, state, and popular sovereignty. It also points out that the

Belorussian SSR is a national state. But this point contradicts article 1 of the BSSR Constitution which stipulates that the BSSR is a socialist state which reflects the will and interests of the republic's workers of all nationalities.

This section also contains the incorrect assertion that the sovereignty of the union republics is primary and the sovereignty of the union is secondary. The sovereignty of the USSR is not the simple sum of the sovereignties of the union republics.

When the USSR was formed the union republics transferred to the union some of their sovereign rights which was necessary in order to have a full-fledged state federation that provides for a combination of the interests of the USSR and the union republics included in it.

The point of the program relating to the veto right of the union republic when unionwide issues are being resolved is directed toward the creation of a schism among the union republics and a destabilization of their relations. The realization of this provision in practice makes it impossible to solve problems affecting the interests of all union republics. A ban that any one republic can place on a solution to a problem contradicts the sovereign rights of the other union republics included in the federation since when there is a veto the decision is not adopted even though other republics may be involved.

One cannot agree with the point of the program that says that the law of the union republic is supreme on its own territory. Such a position puts the laws of the USSR and the BSSR at odds with one another. This contradicts article 74 of the USSR Constitution and article 72 of the BSSR Constitution which stipulate that the laws of the USSR have the same force on the territory of all union republics, and in the event of a disagreement between the law of the union republic and the unionwide law, the USSR law takes precedence.

There are objections to the program's concept concerning republic citizenship on the basis of a residency requirement if the Belorussian language is ceasing to be used. This provision contradicts articles 31 and 32 of the BSSR Constitution, the principle of socialist internationalism, and the constitutional principles of unified union citizenship and equality of citizens under the law, regardless of their place of residence or other circumstances in all areas of economic, political, social, and cultural life. The BSSR Constitution establishes that citizens of other union republics have the same rights on the territory of the BSSR as BSSR citizens do. The provisions presented in the BNF program concerning the issue of national policy are directed toward instilling in the population a feeling of national separation and discord. Additionally, the program's position can have negative consequences for many population groups through the entire country.

There is no legal justification for the program's proclamation of the right of BSSR natives and their descendants to freely return to the homeland and receive

citizenship. When establishing the policy for acceptance for citizenship this issue should be resolved by the organ authorized for this on the basis of the specific individual who wishes to become a citizen. Anyone may apply but this does not mean that anyone who applies will be granted citizenship.

Article 34 of the USSR Constitution, article 32 of the BSSR Constitution, and also the universal human rights declaration are contradicted by the provision contained in the program that proposes establishing equality of rights of BSSR citizens and other residents of the republic in everything except for the right to vote and also to be elected to positions of leadership in soviet state organs of the republic. This would lead to a violation of the equal rights of Soviet people, discrimination against many people, and an aggravation of national hostility.

The provision of the program to the effect that people who live on the territory of the BSSR but are not citizens of it should enjoy the civic competence of the republic or country from which they came must be recognized as groundless. According to existing legislation citizens of all union republics when living on the territory of the Belorussian SSR enjoy the same rights as citizens of the BSSR.

The provision of the program that stipulates that "the BNF attaches special significance to the acquisition of independence by mass sociopolitical organizations of the BSSR which are now existing with the rights of regional structures of the corresponding union organizations" is directed toward the self-isolation of party, trade union, Komsomol, and other social organizations of the republic and their separation from the corresponding union organization.

On the Section "Democracy. The Right of Man"

Resolute objections are evoked by the provisions of the program concerning abolition of article 6 of the USSR Constitution concerning the leading role of the CPSU in our country and the formation of other parties. The leading role of the CPSU is predetermined by the entire course of our country's development, the historical experience in the establishment and development of the USSR. At the present time there is no alternative to the CPSU political organization which is capable of taking responsibility for restructuring and guaranteeing it. In essence the demand to abolish the constitutionally established leadership of the CPSU is directed against the party.

The demand contained in the program to grant the right to hold rallies, meetings, and demonstrations, and also to create social organizations on the basis of the principle of notification rather than permission are directed toward eliminating a certain legal regulation of the conducting of mass measures that require efforts to maintain public order, safety, and other legal interests of citizens, enterprises, and organizations and also toward the creation of legal organizations of any antilegal or other questionable persuasion, which will lead not to the establishment of

the order and discipline in the state and the society, but to permissiveness of everything and disorder.

The provisions contained in the program to the effect that the only function of the USSR internal forces should have is to run places of incarceration contradicts article 2 of the decree of the USSR Supreme Soviet of 4 August 1989 "On a Decisive Stiffening of the Fight Against Crime" and the ukase of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet of 28 July 1988, "On the Rights and Responsibilities of Internal Forces of the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs for Maintaining Social Order," which make internal forces responsible for rendering assistance to internal affairs organs in maintaining public order in addition to protecting state facilities, special cargoes, corrective labor colonies, and work-education camps, and solving other problems.

One cannot agree with the program's provision to the effect that the BSSR retains the right to have its own troop formations. This contradicts the international principles for the formation of the Soviet Army. Moreover questions having to do with the organization of the country's defense, protection of state sovereignty, and leadership of the USSR Armed Forces are of statewide significance and, in keeping with point 8 of article 73 of the USSR Constitution, is under the jurisdiction of the USSR in the form of its highest organs of state power and management. The proclamation in the program of the rights of BSSR citizens to enter military service on their own territory if they wish means nothing other than a desire to divide the army up into national units. Moreover the specific nature of a number of kinds of troops (air force, navy, border, and others) precludes stationing them in a strictly determined area.

On the Section "Ecology"

The proposal concerning the need to hold criminally liable people guilty of concealing the real danger of the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster for Belorussia, misinforming the population, and failing to take the necessary measures to protect the people, in the first place, does not correspond to legislation and, in the second place, does not correspond to the truth: A good deal has been and is being done in the republic to eliminate the consequences of the disaster at the nuclear power plants. During the discussion of the program for eliminating the consequences of this disaster at the session of the BSSR Supreme Soviet it was noted that even among scientists there is no unanimous opinion about the degree of danger of the consequences of the disaster.

The BNF demand to close down the Chernobyl, Smolensk, and Ignalish nuclear power plants violates the sovereignty of other republics. And the demand to declare the BSSR a nonnuclear zone must be dealt with on the basis of the interests of the country's defense.

On the Section "National Food"

In the program on the national question attention is drawn to its one-sided orientation, the shift of focus exclusively to the national aspect, the ignoring of the international and integration in interrelations of the peoples of the USSR, and the division of the people into indigenous ethnic groups and national minorities. Objections are evoked by the underestimation of the social and economic achievements that are inseparably linked to integration of the national economy on the basis of internationalization. It is wrong to consider migratory processes as a deliberate policy of the Soviet state for colonization, absorption of ethnic groups, and their assimilation.

Attention is drawn to the thesis of the program that the BNF welcomes manifestations of the national consciousness of representatives of each minority—Russians, ethnic Poles, Ukrainians, Jews, Tatars, Lithuanians, and others and supports their desire to preserve, develop, and pass on to their descendants their native language, culture, and traditions under the condition that they are aware of their status as minorities in the republic and that they respect the sovereign rights, language, and culture of the indigenous ethnic group of the BSSR. This provision is from the arsenal of great-power chauvinism and encroaches on the rights of other peoples. It is directed toward sowing international discord among citizens of the republic. The BNF resurrects the term "national minorities" which has been applied in the past.

On the Section "Mova"

The 19th All-Union CPSU Conference set the task of creating all the necessary conditions for harmonious and natural development, taking into account the peculiarities of each region, of national-Russian bilingualism that is free of formalism and showing more concern for the active function of the national languages in various spheres of state, social, and cultural life. The bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Belorussia asserted in October 1988 the basic measures for further development of Belorussian-Russian bilingualism. Under these conditions the BNF program draws the groundless conclusion "about the antiscientific nature of the thesis of the progressiveness and need for national-Russian bilingualism throughout the union."

At the 11th session of the BSSR Supreme Soviet a commission was formed for preparing proposals for legislative regulation of the status of the Belorussian and Russian languages as well as other languages used by the republic's population.

The current BSSR Constitution stipulates that laws and other acts of the Supreme Soviets are to be published in the Belorussian and Russian languages. Therefore the indication in the program that the BNF considers that granting the Belorussian language the status of the only

state language of the BSSR can be regarded only as one of the presumptions with legislative regulation of the status of languages.

On the Section "Culture"

There are objections to including in the program provisions to the effect that the BNF considers the national historical symbols—the "Pogonya" coat of arms and the white, red, and white flag—to be an indispensable part of history and a concentrated embodiment of the self-awareness and consolidation of the nation, and is in favor of resurrecting and officially recognizing these symbols. During the Great Patriotic War Belorussian nationalists along with fascists with this symbol destroyed the Belorussian people. And the existing symbols of the BSSR originated in the struggle of the Belorussian people to establish and strengthen the socialist system in our republic. And there is no need to change these symbols for they contributed to the consolidation of the nation during the difficult war years and serve this purpose now as well.

On the Section "Education"

This contains two conclusions that clearly contradict one another: The duty of the schools and other educational institutions to educate aware citizens is incompatible with the requirement to separate children's and youth politicized organizations from the school (they apparently have pioneer and Komsomol organizations in mind). Depriving children of the opportunity for social activity at school age threatens to end up as social passivity when they are adults.

The demand of the BNF program to demilitarize the schools and higher education is groundless. In our country schools and higher educational institutions are not armed. As concerns basic military training in the senior classes of secondary school or training in military departments of higher educational institutions (where they do exist), this is done in keeping with existing legislation.

One cannot agree with the program demand concerning the notion that the dependence of scientific institutions on the military leads to the classification of new ideas and discoveries and deprives scientific thought of the possibility of developing freely, that successes in this research are not reflected in the well-being of people, and that it is time to consistently demilitarize science and restrict the classification of scientific discoveries and developments. In many civilized countries not only are scientific developments having to do with the military classified but developments in the sphere of economic activity are also kept secret. The interests of the country's defense will hardly allow making all scientific developments public.

On the Section "Religion and Citizenship"

In this section the role of religion in the life of the society, the development of culture, and the education of

man is exaggerated. In the BNF program religion acts essentially as a guarantee of the moral health of the society and the individual. Hence the idea of "giving adults and children religious training." This position contradicts the principles of separation of church and state and church and schools (article 50 of the BSSR Constitution).

Reference to the 1929 USSR law "On Religious Associations" are wrong for there never was such a law. The provision "On Religious Associations" approved by the All-Russian Central Executive Committee and the RSFSR Soviet of People's Commissars of 8 April 1929 applied only to the territory of the RSFSR.

By proclaiming in the program that the "state and also social, economic, and other organizations should not intervene in religious affairs," the BNF is essentially intervening in the internal affairs of the church, indicating in the program that it would be desirable to transform the Minsk and Belorussian eparchies into the Belorussian exarchate and to form the Belorussian catholic bishopric and administrative-spiritual centers of other faiths. The proposal to translate services in Christian religious organizations into the Belorussian language can be assessed from the same viewpoint.

The BNF proposal to declare the first days of Christmas and Easter to be holidays cannot be accepted because the church is separate from the state.

Anniversary Said to Mark 'Beginning of Estonian Genocide'

*18001342 Tallinn SOVETSKAYA ESTONIYA
in Russian 11 Jun 89 p 4*

[Appeal by Memento, the Estonian Alliance of the Illegally-Repressed: "To Estonians Around the World"]

[Text] We Estonians, the numerically small people of little Estonia, survived a century of trials and achieved the establishment of our own state. But it was subjugated.

Immediately after the Soviet Union's annexation of the Estonian republic the crimes directed against the Estonian people began. The first peak of the systematic physical and spiritual destruction of the people was achieved on 14 June 1941, when thousands of people were exiled to foreign parts.

This was followed by the death, or in essence the extermination of the men, who were mobilized into labor battalions. Thousands of men died on the battlefields in the bloom of youth and strength, carrying in their hearts the ideal of a free and independent Estonia.

In the years 1941-1944 thousands of Estonians were forced to abandon the land of their fathers, reasoning not without justification that remaining in their homeland meant all the same exile to a foreign land or even death, and they chose voluntary exile.

After the war the terror continued. Any activity by Estonians was suppressed; children and old people, women and men were sent to prison or exiled; the people were deprived of public figures, the intelligentsia, and peasants—all those who made up the nation. This was genocide against the Estonian people.

The 14th of June has remained in the memory of the Estonian people as the day on which the genocide began.

The remains of thousands of Estonians are buried in foreign soil—in the land of eternal frost and in desert sands; the graves of those who fled destruction are scattered throughout the world.

We appeal to Estonians throughout the world and to all Estonian public organizations and movements to mark the 14th of June as the day of genocide against the Estonian people, a day of sorrow, to ensure that the memory of the tens of thousands of those who perished and the sufferings of our people shall remain in our hearts forever.

On that day we shall lower the national flags in mourning.

We shall light funeral candles in memory of those who did not find eternal rest in their native land and for those who, although they returned to their homeland, lost their health and the best years of life in foreign parts.

On this day we shall mourn in churches, we will remember the dead with solemn meetings and concerts.

We shall bring fresh flowers to the places where they were tortured, punished and denied their rights.

We shall honor this day believing that no people will ever have to fear genocide again.

We call on all peoples and all individuals whose ideals are justice and freedom to listen.

Memento, the Estonian Union of the Illegally-Repressed

Estonian Party, State Mark Start of 'Mass Repressions'

*18001343 Tallinn SOVETSKAYA ESTONIYA
in Russian 14 Jun 89 p 1*

["Appeal to the Residents of Estonia"]

[Text] Today is a day of mourning. On June 14th it is 48 years since the day the people of Estonia faced Stalinist mass repressions for the first time.

Forty-eight years ago more than ten thousand of our fellow countrymen were torn from their own homes. This deed, which violates all human rights and laws, became only the first step on the path of suffering and loss traversed by the people of Estonia; it was the start of one of the most tragic pages in the history of a small people. Stalinist practices of this kind continued subsequently as well, achieving their culmination in the March

1949 forced deportation to Siberia of more than 20,000 people, a majority of whom were once again women and children.

These crimes committed against the people of Estonia have no statute of limitations; lessons must be learned from them forever. No ideological or political considerations can justify crimes against humanity, against an individual or against a whole people. On the contrary a policy which requires force against a peaceful population and the ideology which justifies such a policy are themselves crimes and as such they deserve irrevocable condemnation. It is necessary to overcome an inhumane way of thinking and replace it once and for all with a democratic and profoundly humane way. Only the truth in all of its entirety can prevent the future repetition of the lawlessness and cruelty, as well as deals similar to the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact; only the truth can prevent the trampling of the rights of individuals, peoples and states.

The fear sown in the people's soul during the 40's will disappear only when we succeed in rejecting definitively all attempts at even the slightest justification of the crimes of Stalinism, when we manage to create firm guarantees against the possibility of their repetition.

In this area particular responsibility rests with the Communist Party of Estonia, which became by virtue of circumstances a confederate in the crimes of Stalinism. Beginning with the 11th Plenum of its Central Committee (1988) the Estonian Communist Party, both in party documents as well as through the mouths of its members, has frequently emphasized the complete political and moral responsibility which it has accepted for what was done during that period, when it was the directing force of all public life in the Estonian SSR. Our moral obligation is to restore the truth and condemn the mass repressions.

But no word, not even the most longed for, can render nonexistent the injustice which was committed, nor can the most perfect work of art or the most authoritative work of scientific research return victims to life or restore the physical and spiritual health of those who suffered. The Estonian Communist Party considers that it has a moral and political obligation to create the kind of social and political system in which real democracy and justice would reign and in which the rights and freedoms of every person would be protected. The one guarantee that the democratization of public life is irreversible can be found in joint activity by all organizations, movements and people who support perestroika.

Let today be a day not only of mourning and sorrow. While remembering the innocent who suffered, we must feel in ourselves the strength to go forward to a sovereign Estonia, which independently develops its economy and culture, to an Estonia where every person and his rights are reliably protected. Let us save our magnificent northern environment; let us heal our wounds, let us

return to life and let us restore the homes which have been ours since time immemorial.

To honor the sacrifices made by the people of Estonia and to mark the start of the events which were so tragic for it we shall lower our blue, black and white national flag on the Dlinnyy German Tower of Toompea Castle. Let today, the 14th of June, become both a day of sorrow and reflection, a day of self-purification and conscience, but at the same time a day of awakening and of hope.

Estonian CP Central Committee, Estonian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, Estonian SSR Council of Ministers

Estonia's Titma Warns Against Partisan Politics 18150083

[Editorial Report] Tallinn RAHVA HAAL in Estonian on 1 July 1989 carries on page 1 a 3400-word article by Peeter Raidla headlined "Of Elections, Democracy and Local Power." The article is based on an interview with Mikk Titma, secretary of the Estonian CP Central Committee, who warns against political splitting along party lines and emphasizes the importance of electing a team capable of carrying out the changes proposed. Leaving the Union is considered a possibility by Titma, but only if political preparedness prevails.

Titma warns against the paralyzing effect of multiple power splits, especially in a situation that calls for systematically planned action. Referring to the newly emerged political activity of the citizens' committees, he says:

"The movement of Estonian citizens' committees would be quite harmless in and of itself, providing the situation were different. Right now, it introduces an additional obstacle to the solution of the problem. For this reason, there is an incontestable need to reveal the essence of this movement..."

"At the committee meetings one could see people (and I noticed communists among them) who are literally seeking opportunities for self-realization, as they seek for guarantees to make the current processes irreversible. The committees seem to offer an escape route."

"Therein lies the tragedy of the situation. Another point of danger is that, to this day, people have not realized that merely declaring IME (Self-Managing Estonia), pushing aside the communists, and putting labels on everything is not sufficient to improve matters."

"The answer is in developing a society that is capable of taking action. However, not even the most obvious things are being done to move in this direction. This can be irritating. In the outlying regions, for example, and even in the cities, middle managers are blocking changes of all kinds. Not on purpose, of course, but simply acting from where they stand. People are used to things as they are. Nobody's eager to jump into unknown waters."

Referring to elections, Titma says:

"It is necessary that this process be perceived not merely as voting but, above all, as a matter of restoring the basic unit of the society. Elections constitute a step in that direction."

Referring to the Estonian CP, and its willingness to share power, Titma continues:

"First of all, I consider a clear-cut political splitting of the situation along ideological or factional lines to be extremely dangerous. Especially in a small society like that of Estonia..."

"The current position of the Estonian CP Central Committee is also clear on this matter: we don't intend to come out with a list of candidates for the party. We clearly support the position that the most capable people should be elected, those who can handle things locally, and have the confidence of the people."

"Hence our opinion that emphasis in the elections should be placed on individuals, and that a certain compromise should be reached, so that the most capable teams could be assembled on all levels."

Among issues up for Union-level negotiations, Titma mentioned the upcoming Plenum for Nationality Relations, and the formalization of IME. He comments:

"Before making our transition to IME, and before actually making any changes in our society, we have to restore the basic structure of that society. This would mean having villages, parishes and counties, just as we had them in Estonia before. Same goes for the cities..."

When asked about the timing of administrative reform, Titma replies:

"The problem here is that administrative reform should be initiated from below, not by some resolution or decree issued from above. The management in many of the regions, however, has not seen fit to touch the issue at all..."

Commenting on the legislative proposal for elections and the residency requirements established for newcomers, Titma comments:

"A person who has lived in Estonia only for a year or two, cannot presume to tell others how to live here. A person elected locally, could only be one who knows the situation, acts responsibly, and is not indifferent about local life."

When asked about Estonia's secession from the Union, Titma does not rule out the possibility, but adds:

"In this context, I'd like to point out that, right now, we don't even have the essential political mechanism to bring it about... The leaders of the Estonian National Independence Party, and some of the leaders of the Association for the Protection of Antiquities should first ask themselves the question: where is that realistic force that will make Estonia independent according to their

plans. They are certainly not planning on proceeding lawfully, considering the fact that they have been questioning the very existence of Estonian SSR as a real political phenomenon."

He adds:

"The formation of citizens' committees is leading us nowhere, it only makes it harder for our leaders to continue their lawful activity in the interests of Estonia."

When asked to offer some positive solutions, Titma comments:

"The point is that we have to make use of all the possibilities before us, gathering strength, while becoming a truly sovereign nation. And this is what's being achieved through the resolutions of November 16, IME, the restoration of administrative structures in local self-government, and the organization of the society from the ground up.

"Our deputies, too, are busy acting along these lines in Moscow, and that very intensively and very effectively. There is no big noise, however, since real political activity is always conducted quietly, without irritating the opponent, and without pinning him down in public."

Youth Paper Interviews Georgia's National Democratic Party Chairman

18300846 Tbilisi MOLODEZH GRUZII in Russian
26 Aug 89 pp 4-5

[Interview with Georgiy Chanturiya, chairman of the National Democratic Party of Georgia, by E. Kakabadze and M. Yeligulashvili: "Without Having Illusions"]

[Excerpts]

Biographic Information.

Georgiy Chanturiya was born in 1959. In 1978 he was admitted to the Department of History of the Tbilisi State University. In 1983 he was arrested under Article 206³ of the Criminal Code of the Georgian SSR and was imprisoned until 1985. In 1986 he graduated from the Department of History. He was admitted to the graduate program by correspondence but was expelled for political reasons. He began his political activities in 1977; Georgiy Chanturiya has not been a member of the Komsomol or the CPSU. He is married for the second time and has a 10-year-old son by his first marriage. At present he is employed as a senior editor at the State Chamber of Books.

With material in the 5 August issue, our newspaper inaugurated the new rubric "Who Is Who"; we see as its objective the presentation of social groupings, movements, and organizations which now influence the socio-political life of the republic. This rubric is built on the "open microphone" principle whereby we give our interlocutors complete freedom to speak out without smoothing anything over and reducing it to some

abstract common denominator. We understand full well that we will not get acquainted otherwise.

The chairman of the National Democratic Party of Georgia, Georgiy Chanturiya, is our interlocutor today.

[Kakabadze, Yeligulashvili] Giya, as of now your party is the only one which is not a new group, but represents a reborn, previously existing party. This is why, perhaps, it still makes sense to begin with history.

[Chanturiya] Fine. Early in this century, the party of federalists formed in Georgia. Essentially it was not only socialist but also national, unlike the social-democratic party. In this party, there was a segment of politicians who shared the national principles of federalists but did not subscribe to the idea of socialism. The nucleus which later constituted itself as the National Democratic Party formed within the party of federalists. The constituent assembly was held between 4 and 20 June 1917. Spiridon Kediya was confirmed as the first chairman of the party. To be sure, we cannot say that the NDP [National Democratic Party] did not function before 1917. It published the newspaper IMERETI in Kutaisi, and the journal KLDE in Tbilisi; however, these were virtually the only functional structures of the party. In 1917 it already emerged officially as one of the parties.

The supraclass nature was one of the main principles of the NDP unlike in other parties which formed as the advocates of interests of particular classes and social strata. This was clearly stated in the program document of the party.

Naturally many difficulties befell the NDP after the 1921 coup and the sovietization of Georgia; after the 1924 uprising, the party in Georgia virtually ceased to exist. Until 1981 the NDP existed only in emigration, in Paris. However, we may draw an analogy between this existence and the period when the party had no organizational structures other than the press organs. In 1981 several persons, including myself, decided to reactivate this party in the underground. [passage omitted]

[Kakabadze, Yeligulashvili] What was the strength of the restored NDP at the outset of its rebirth?

[Chanturiya] For some time there were several dozen party members. In the very first action group there were five of us. However, within just a few months the number increased several fold.

In 1988 we officially announced our party in Riga. We are sometimes asked by journalists whether this was a consequence of the processes of perestroika. We are categorically against this statement because even now we could remain in the underground and carry on illegal activities quite successfully.

In late 1987-early 1988 we became members of the first board of the Ilya Chavchavadze Society. However, we wanted to create a mass base organization for the party. This was necessary because until then the character of

the NDP was sectarian to a degree, which is understandable in the environment of the underground. We selected the people very carefully, only the trusted ones. When the Chavchavadze Society began to fall apart we made its most politicized segment into IV Dasi which even then numbered several hundred members. We declared IV Dasi to be the base organization of the NDP which made it possible for us to refer to the existence of such a party—NDP-IV Dasi. At present this organization numbers about 3,000 members.

[Kakabadze, Yeligulashvili] What is the difference between the programs of the old NDP and the current one?

[Chanturiya] Their program had clearly formulated social guidelines. Ours is more concise, laconic, and social problems take the back seat in it. This is explained by the fact that as of now we consider political independence to be our main goal. Developing economic, social, and other structures is, to my mind, the work for a later date which is not to say that we are not doing it at present. It is just that we do not see fit to stress some issues in the program now as other parties or organizations are doing. For example, talk about the introduction of NATO troops into Georgia at present is ridiculous. We set forth in our program the avenues which we believe to be the most current as of now for every inhabitant of Georgia and determine the ways to achieve the objectives as much as possible. [passage omitted]

[Kakabadze, Yeligulashvili] NDP is believed to be perhaps the most radically disposed organization among all others. Why?

[Chanturiya] Possibly this impression emerges because we are categorically against cooperating with the official authorities—cooperating exactly rather than having a dialogue. We are not afraid of a dialogue because we are convinced that we are right, we are convinced that we have weightier arguments than our opponents. However, we consider cooperation with Soviet power to be collaboration.

[Kakabadze, Yeligulashvili] Let us be more precise: with Soviet power or with the Communist Party?

[Chanturiya] If we had a communist party of Georgia it would have the same rights as the NDP or any other party. However, we do not have a communist party of Georgia, but we have the CPSU. [passage omitted]

[Kakabadze, Yeligulashvili] For 70 years the people have been indoctrinated in the spirit of Marxism-Leninism. It is impossible to change one's mentality within several days. How do you intend to gain supporters?

[Chanturiya] I believe this will not be a problem. The Marxist-Leninist view of the world on the part of a majority of the populace is just an appearance. We are sure that if free elections were to be held in Georgia, and

a communist party of Georgia as well as the NDP were to take part in them, we would receive 60 to 70 percent of the vote.

In Georgia the ideas of socialism as such are dead. Marxism-Leninism has entirely compromised itself, as well as Western-style social democracy.

[Kakabadze, Yeligulashvili] Why did you boycott the elections? After all, under current circumstances the leaders of informal organizations had a quite realistic opportunity to be elected to the parliament.

[Chanturiya] We do not oppose the parliamentary option. We oppose having illusions. The parliamentary way is not an option in a country which has no real parliament and no plurality of parties.

There is one more aspect. We refused to take part in the Soviet elections. Soviet power is illegal in Russia; it was established forcibly. Lenin broke up the Constituent Assembly and proclaimed the so-called dictatorship of the proletariat although in reality there was not any dictatorship of the proletariat.

As far as Georgia is concerned, here Soviet power is doubly illegitimate because a case of annexation also occurred. This is why I am surprised by a number of our honest but politically illiterate deputies who are now saying that we need professional politicians while in practice they are disregarding this elementary notion: If we do not recognize the fact of annexation, then what are we doing in the organ of power which was introduced in Georgia as a result of this annexation? This is not only politically unjustified, but also legally incorrect. The Supreme Soviet of Georgia is not a political institution. Nothing depends on it.

One more point. Even if dissidents were to account for 100 percent of the Supreme Soviet of Georgia, they still would not be able to do anything. Perhaps, one more illusion will emerge here, that of using the forum. I believe that quite the opposite would happen. We will be used to cheat the average man. Therefore, we will not participate in the elections ourselves, and will call on others to do likewise.

[Kakabadze, Yeligulashvili] Your program has a provision to the effect that the creation of factions within the NDP is prohibited. Is this not a recurrence of authoritarianism with all kinds of manifestations of which we are fed up?

[Chanturiya] Factions in the environment of the underground are perilous for the party. This is all the more dangerous now when the people do not have proper political culture. We are in favor of plurality, of a multitude of parties existing, but not a multitude of parties within one party. This may be the reason why we are organizationally and structurally the strongest organization, although perhaps not the most numerous. Besides, our party has real rather than nominal members

as many other organizations do. This is our strength. In our party, a split is impossible.

[Kakabadze, Yeligulashvili] Recently we spoke to a person who voiced a quite original supposition. The Communist Party of Georgia only has to hold out for just a little while longer until members of informal organizations do each other in, and it will be left again in proud solitude. Please comment on this...

[Chanturiya] This is a danger. Let us take, say, the ambiguous attitude of various organizations toward the elections, the Marneuli problem, and the events in Abkhaziya... A split of the movement into two parts has occurred against this background. The people are bewildered as to whom to follow. We do not demand that the people definitely follow us. We say: People have an instrument as powerful as consciousness; let them decide who speaks the truth on their own. [passage omitted]

[Kakabadze, Yeligulashvili] Insofar as is known, until recently the Committee of National Salvation to which representatives of almost all parties and organizations belonged played the role of a peculiar parliament of informal organizations. Was this the case?

[Chanturiya] Yes, it was. However, after our party, the Legal-Radical Party, and the Union of National Justice, and subsequently the second part of the National Independence Party (democrats) left the Committee of National Salvation, it fell apart. The Helsinki Group, the Society of St. Elijah the Righteous, and a wing of the National Independence Party remain in the committee.

[Kakabadze, Yeligulashvili] Why did the Committee of National Salvation fall apart? What was the main reason for the split?

[Chanturiya] There are several reasons. First, our positions with regard to the national Duma came to differ. We want to hold free alternative elections to the Duma declaring in the process a boycott of the Supreme Soviet and demanding that all 440 deputies be disallowed and a new parliament created. We understand that at present it is very difficult to do, but it needs to be done, and the sooner the better. The new parliament should unite all regions of Georgia, all strata of the populace, and not just the Georgian segment of it.

Second, we did not agree with regard to the events in Bolnisi and Marneuli. Our position is that this was nothing but an attempt to get us involved in an ethnic crisis. In the event we take the bait, Moscow will get to play the "noble" role of a buffer of sorts, a mediator, and then the Georgians will be portrayed as oppressors of ethnic minorities. After all, it is not this way in reality. Nonetheless, it is quite difficult even now to convince, say, the West or, say, a Russian dissident that it was exactly 70,000 Abkhazians who went against 4 million Georgians. This is why we have thought and think that we should not interfere in this conflict and let the so-called government of the republic ease the tension itself. However, in this instance you are entitled to ask a

counterquestion: If we do not recognize the current government why do we make the settlement of these conflicts its province? For the reason that the events in Bolnisi, Marneuli, and Abkhaziya have been instigated; since it is so, the national movement runs the risk of getting bogged down in the marsh of ethnic conflicts and getting smeared with someone else's mud. One may get the impression that we are trying to "sit out in the rear" this quite complex situation. This is not so. The only thing we can do and are doing is to bring pressure to bear on the official authorities forcing them to take action. However, unlike our opponents, we are against cavalry raids on the government. Time is required for resolving such delicate issues whereas the demand to solve the Bolnisi, Marneuli, and Abkhaziya issues immediately is unrealistic. Nobody needs that kind of haste. This is why we were categorically against going on strike immediately, as it happened in the case of Bolnisi and Marneuli. We should strive to transform any crisis forced on us from the outside into a political one; that is, the actions we conduct should be antigovernment rather than anti-Abkhazian, anti-Azeri, or anti-Russian. We should call everything by its real name.

[Kakabadze, Yeligulashvili] Therefore, the Committee of National Salvation has not become an organ of consolidation. Could the People's Front perform this function as, say, in the Baltic area?

[Chanturiya] This is unrealistic. Here is why. In the Baltic area, people's fronts were created before all other informal organizations, and here the front appeared later than all of them, after more influential parties and forces have entered the political arena. This is why our people's front has already lost the consolidating and coordinating functions which are characteristic of the Baltic people's fronts. This is both good and bad. Tell me, if we were to agree to this, how are we to explain to the people why both the communists and the national democrats would be united in the people's front? As I understand it, the front is a forward line of battle. However, if the communists are manning this line the question arises about who they are fighting. The people know who we are fighting—the so-called dictatorship of the proletariat and for restoring the status of Georgia which it had until 25 February 1921. Who robbed us of our independence? Communists. So, it turns out that together with us the communists have to fight... the communists? [Passage omitted]

[Kakabadze, Yeligulashvili] Giya, does not the above suggest that consolidation is altogether impossible, and it is the fate of every party and every movement to fight the battle alone?

[Chanturiya] No, consolidation is possible but without the Communist Party. This will happen in the national movement sooner or later but only after we overcome the crisis within the movement. Consolidation at a new level should occur on the basis of the National Duma.

[Kakabadze, Yeligulashvili] The National Democratic Party makes a number of global political demands. How realistic is achieving them under present conditions?

[Chanturiya] Nothing can be done if you just sit idle. If we are going to act... We are not utopians; we know the degree to which our every demand is realistic. For example, we have the demand to restore the political independence of Georgia. We are aware that nobody is going to meet this demand for us... I have already mentioned that in an interview with Georgian TV: The demand that the republic secede from the USSR is illusory. Proceeding from the essence of Bolshevism, nobody will voluntarily separate Georgia from the union. How do we see the restoration of the independence of the republic in this case? The same way it occurred in 1917. The empire is beginning to fall apart again, and we, the Georgians, Lithuanians, Latvians, Estonians, Armenians, Moldavians, Belorussians, and other peoples, should pool our efforts in the struggle to speed up this process. Then all of us will receive independence automatically. Therefore, overthrowing the empire should be our slogan rather than the secession of the republic.

[Kakabadze, Yeligulashvili] In your opinion, by what methods can this objective be achieved?

[Chanturiya] By using all forms of political struggle, and political struggle alone. We are opposed to any violence because violence holds no promise. It is nonsensical to fight the authorities from a position of force because they have a superior force. Only through political and economic struggle—demonstrations, meetings, strikes, acts of civil disobedience, and, which is the main point, coordination of actions with other national democratic forces. Specific steps have already been taken in this direction. Not so long ago, the coordinating Committee of National Democratic Movements of the Peoples of the USSR was created of which Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Moldavia, Belorussia, the Crimean Tatars, Georgia, Armenia, and the Democratic Union from Russia are members. Georgia is represented in the committee by several political organizations, including the NDP. In early August, we went to Moscow where the issue of setting up the Christian Democratic Union was being resolved. Its first constituent congress will be held in Tbilisi very soon. We view this event as very significant. We will have an opportunity to join the Christian international through the union.

[Kakabadze, Yeligulashvili] Time will show how your relations in the international arena are going to develop. However, I believe you can make a more definitive statement on mutual relations with the republic authorities.

[Chanturiya] In principle it is not important to us who heads the ruling party. We are fighting the system rather than persons. This is what distinguishes us from some political organizations which combat in turn this or that

official, failing to realize in the process that replacing one leader with another will not produce results. [passage omitted]

[Kakabadze, Yeligulashvili] What is your assessment of the concept of economic independence for the republic developed by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Georgia and the Council of Ministers of the Georgian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic]? Do you think the road to political independence lies through economic independence?

[Chanturiya] That is, is there a time lag between economic and political independence? This is absurd. Talking about economic independence without political independence is an illusion, self-deception. Only having secured political independence will we be able to ensure independence in other fields. I am profoundly convinced that economic independence is the result of genuine political sovereignty rather than the other way around. As far as the proposed state concept is concerned, I refrain from calling it a step forward. Most likely, this was done in order to yet again lull the average man and distract him from struggle. Look, they are supposedly giving us independence; all we have to do is develop a concept, and as soon as the Central Committee works it out, we've got it in the palm of our hand. Well, if results are going to be achieved that way we will consider our party to have dissolved itself...

[Kakabadze, Yeligulashvili] Giya, concerning your attitude toward a highly sensitive issue, the nationality issue. You would agree that the slogan "Georgia for the Georgians" does not contribute to reinforcing peace among the people of different nationalities living in the republic.

[Chanturiya] Any slogan needs an explanation, including "Georgia for the Georgians." The entire non-Georgian population of the republic should know and remember that in 1,000 years of the history of Georgia there has been no case when the Georgians oppressed other nationalities. This will not happen in the future as well. What is happening now has been instigated by our enemies with a quite definite purpose. The situation is being exacerbated in order to pit the philistine mass of non-Georgian population against the Georgians and draw the attention of both parties away from the main point. Those who are indeed well-disposed toward us will be able to understand our position. The slogan "Georgia for the Georgians" will indeed sound aggressive in an independent republic. However, at this point it is our weapon for self-defense rather than for attacking representatives of other nationalities. The Georgians have no other land but Georgia; however, every non-Georgian will have the same political rights as we will. This is what you need to proceed from in evaluating our interpretation of interethnic relations.

[Kakabadze, Yeligulashvili] Giya, what is your vision of an independent Georgia?

[Chanturiya] Only as a state of the Western type built exclusively on the principles of genuine democracy and political pluralism. There is one more distinctive moment; that is, theodemocracy. The church should exercise control over the politicians. In all Western countries with a classical democracy, the church exists as an autonomous institution. For our part, we want Orthodox Christianity to become the state religion of independent Georgia, which does not at all mean that other religions or atheism will be discriminated against.

I believe that the model of a Western democratic state is the most normal form of human existence as of now. The NDP does not lay a claim to mandatory power. Let the Constituent Assembly of Georgia decide who is to be given the mandate to govern for 4 to 5 years, as it is going to be set forth in the constitution.

Anti-Georgian Policies at Mining Mill Now Ended

18130063 AKHALGAZRDA KOMUNISTI in Georgian
4 Apr 89 p 2

[Article by Gocha Kviladze: "Kazreti—The Future City of Madneuli"]

[Text] The purpose of our trip was to present today's community of Kazreti—soon to be the City of Madneuli—in Bolnisi Rayon....

...As soon as you enter Kazreti you can sense the routine of everyday life in this community of 11,000. The Madneuli Mining Concentration Combine, which is the main reason for Kazreti's development and future prospects, is located on the left side of the town.

Holy Trinity Church

Bolnisi Rayon is extremely rich in historical monuments, including the monastery complex that is an architectural example of the first quarter of the 13th century, dominated by the single-nave Trinity Church. The construction of it is linked to the name of Lasha Giorgi. Before we arrived, young people of the Combine had held a routine subbotnik to clean up the grounds and remove the bushes and brambles from the environs. Earlier, also at the young people's initiative, the damaged right wall of the monastery was restored. They also intend to bring in water and electricity, and who knows how many other wonderful ideas and dreams will be accomplished by the Combine's Komsomol members and their leader, Dzhaniko Kaplanishvili, because work is also needed on the Satkha and Samtredo churches.

...And the Holy Trinity Church stood proud and tall, one more certain witness to our past....

A Bit About the Combine

The history of the Madneuli Mining Concentration Combine dates from 1975, when the first materials were produced here.

The Combine has been on full cost accounting since January 1988, although the elements of the new system of management were introduced back in 1985. Two full cost-accounting brigades were created at that time and radically changed their style and methods of work. Quite aside from the BelAZ drivers, who are 10 times more interested in going out on line and fulfilling the plan, even the mechanics are thinking in the new way now and, by keeping the equipment ready, are enabling the drivers to work full time. Before, the mechanics were willing to keep the trucks idle, undergoing repairs for days on end, and just make their five or six rubles per day.

The Road to the Mine

"It's hard working on a BelAZ, especially during the winter and at night," said my guide, Zaza Zazikashvili. "We work in shifts, you know. That's why we almost always have a shortage of drivers, yet if we do good work and fulfill the plan, our monthly income goes up to 400 or 500 rubles. So if young people want to test their powers, they have a fine opportunity with us."

Demography, ecology, and reality

The Kazreti district was historically populated by Georgians, although other nationalities were also represented there. Unfortunately, however, only 40 percent of the population is Georgian now. It's hard to determine what causes put us into this situation, but people in the community still lament the period of five or six years ago, when the former director of the Combine put up artificial barriers against hiring Georgians in the Combine. He even brought the cook down from the Ukraine, to say nothing of secretaries and technical personnel. All business was conducted in Russian.... The situation is completely changed now. The new management is concerned about resolving this problem in a positive way. Not only have the artificial barriers gone down, all kinds of benefits have been introduced to attract manpower. By 1990, all business will be conducted in Georgian.

"Like every place else in the world, our republic faces a major problem. You've probably guessed that I'm talking about: ecology," says Combine Director Vakhtang Sulamanidze. "Unfortunately, this problem has been with us for quite a few years, and now we have to correct a situation that has been deteriorating for years. You have probably noticed the loaded trucks heading up into the mountains. We're hauling topsoil up to the worked-out pits, which will be reforested. Nor will the future forgive us if we pollute the Kazretula River, considering that it empties into the Mashavera, the Mashavera empties into the Khrami, and the Khrami empties into the Kura. Hence, we're trying to see to it that the treatment plants always operate effectively. As of today, however, treating the used water and returning it to the river poses a number of difficulties. Until we can solve that problem, we are recycling the water in order to protect the Kazretula from harmful contamination."

An affiliate of the Polytechnic Institute was functioning at the Combine from 1980 on, providing two specialties in machine building technology and vehicle and automotive maintenance. A total of 14 young drivers completed the institute while remaining on the job, and eight of them stayed there.

Dzhaniko Kaplanishvili, the secretary of the Combine's Komsomol Committee, told us that in accordance with an agreement between the Madneuli Mining Concentration Combine and the Georgian Komsomol Central Committee Youth Construction Projects and Youth Job Placement departments concerning joint cooperation in the 1989 period, construction began recently on a youth residential complex for the 25 BelAZ drivers who have come from various parts of Georgia on Komsomol assignment to work in Kazreti. It's true that because they are working in shifts, some of them cannot take part in building the complex, but after driving trucks for two years, those who so desire will be given two-story individual dwellings of 600 square meters, along with 600 to 800 square meters of household land, which they can own after driving BelAZ trucks for 10 years. This should greatly facilitate the task of attracting young people and keeping them there.

Ingush National Autonomy Within Historical Borders Requested

18300832 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian
14 Sep 89 p 2

[Report by SELSKAYA ZHIZN correspondent S. Loranukayev: "Congress of the Ingush People"]

[Text] Groznyy, 13 September—At the initiative of the Niskho (Justice) informal social movement, the 2nd Congress of the Ingush People took place over the course of two days in the Palace of Culture imeni Lenin. It discussed the report "On the Socio-Political Position of the Ingush People in Light of the CPSU Draft Platform Nationality Policy of the Party in Contemporary Conditions." The Congress adopted a resolution and made an appeal to the upcoming CPSU Central Committee Plenum to support its proposal on restoring Ingushetia national autonomy to Ingushetia within its historical borders.

Students Warned Against Nationalist Appeals

18330018c

[Editorial Report] Frunze SOVETNIK KYRGYZSTAN in Kirghiz on 13 May 1989 carries on pages 1,2 a 1,300 word KirTAG report titled "Meeting With Student Youth" on the 11 May meeting between A. M. Masaliyev, first secretary of the Kirghiz CP Central Committee, and students at the Kirghiz State University. The meeting was also attended by officials of various republic ministries, and the Kirghiz Komsomol Central Committee. In the course of the meeting, which was primarily devoted to questions of properly channeling student activism, it was noted that "unfortunately, it has come to

pass that some youths are being seduced by demagogic speeches and appeals to nationalism and chauvinism. Because swindlers and demagogues are exerting a negative influence on youth, we must expose their provocations and deal the extremist elements a decisive blow. The students at the Kirghiz State University, the leading institution among the republic's institutions of higher learning, must set an example of solidarity and organization and actively resist any actions violating the public interest." It was added that "special attention is being given to the development of bilingualism" but emphasized that the "most appropriate conditions for the development of Kirghiz, Russian and the languages of other nations and peoples residing in the Kirghiz SSR must be created."

Latvian Popular Front Editor Burned to Death

18080071 Riga CINA in Latvian 5 Jul 89 p 4

[Interview with Ignats Kemzans, procurator of Madona Rayon, by correspondent Vita Krauja: "A Criminal Case Has Been Instituted"]

[Text] As was already announced in the press and on television, in the early morning hours from 16 to 17 June in the barn at his country home, Janis Simsons, director of Madona's art school for children and the editor of the Madona's Popular Front chapter newsletter MADONAS ATMODA [MADONA'S AWAKENING], burned to death. More than two weeks have elapsed since this incident. What has been established? I asked Ignats Kemzans, procurator of Madona Rayon, to inform our readers about this.

[Kemzans] The barn burned down early in the morning, and the inhabitants of the neighboring houses did not pay any attention to the smoke. The firemen were never even called. The police were called only on the evening of Saturday, 17 June, in other words more than 12 hours later, because it seemed suspicious to one of the neighbors that Janis Simsons' car had been standing so long without being used. Janis Simsons' house and car allegedly remained undamaged. In the car a wedding band and money were found. Least of all do I admit the possibility that an accident occurred. After looking at the location of the incident, one can conclude that a chemical substance, as of yet unidentified by the investigation, which created a very high temperature, was present. Beneath the body the amount of degrees was at such a level that even glass would have melted. With gasoline one cannot achieve such an effect. The body of the deceased was burnt almost as if in a crematorium. I wish to stress that this is not a common occurrence. If it was murder, it was thoroughly planned, if suicide—also previously contemplated.

I also wish to stress that there is not the least foundation for the talk that Janis Simsons had health problems. I also knew him personally. He was a decent, stable person. However, the publication of the newspaper did greatly ruin his nerves. Can you imagine a situation

where each newspaper article must be signed and stamped? A few weeks ago he asked me whether such censorship is lawful. I, of course, answered that it is not. However, there were Party members who in this fashion controlled each issue of MADONAS ATMODA.

In connection with the tragic death of Janis Simsons I have begun criminal proceedings. Therefore I ask all who know something about the circumstances of this person's tragic death to call or write me, Ignats Kemzans, the Madona rayon procurator.

Workers' 'Defense Committees' Response to Citizenship Law

*18001699 Vilnius SOVETSKAYA LITVA in Russian
5 Sep 89 p 2*

[Interview with A. Stelmakh, chairman of the Snechkus Workers' Rights Defense Committee, by Z. Shupayeva: "Committee for Defense. Against Whom?"]

[Text] At the enterprises in Snechkus committees for the defense of the workers' political and social rights have appeared. A combined city committee was also recently created.

What are these new organs, and what are their status, aims and tasks? A. Stelmakh, who has been elected chairman of the Snechkus Workers' Rights Defense Committee, answers our correspondent.

"It has turned out that our settlement has been held as a unique hostage by the departmental bureaucracy. We have repeatedly tried to attract attention to our problems: resolutions from meetings and letters and appeals have been sent to the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee, the republic Supreme Soviet, and the USSR Council of Ministers. For many months the labor collectives in Snechkus have been living in a state of stress and moral discomfort. The last straw was the from our standpoint, undemocratic Law on Citizenship published in the press. I am talking about the Ignalinskiy nuclear power station, where I am chairman of the trade union committee. The collective has staunchly withstood the onslaught of the massed attack and the persecution to which the local mass media have subjected it. Now we have to endure even more: We must oppose the attempts to disunite the collective from within, not let sober reason be overwhelmed by emotion, and not yield to provocative, inflammatory slogans. The protest movement against the infringements on the rights of the workers has moved downward and become random, and in order to prevent undesirable consequences and stop the situation from getting out of control, at a joint meeting of the party committee, trade union committee, and labor collective council at the nuclear power station it was decided to set up a mobile coordinating center that would take the initiative, study the situation, predict events, and help to maintain stability and normal working discipline. And this kind of joint organ is simply

essential in the city since there is still no unified political center and the enterprise is being split up by departmental barriers.

Let me make it quite clear, A. Stelmakh continued, that we are not a strike committee. On the contrary, our aim is to avoid this extreme means with all our efforts. We are power engineering workers and we are well aware of our responsibility for the consequences of such a step for the republic's economy. This is also why it was decided to initiate an active dialogue with the republic government and party leadership before an emergency situation arises. Our demands and proposals have already been sent to the appropriate organs.

Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists Represented at 'Rukh' Congress

*18001705 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian
10 Sep 89 p 3*

[PRAVDA UKRAINY own report: "Guests From the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists at the Founding Congress of 'Rukh'"]

[Text] As is known, on 8 September at the Congress of the Ukrainian Peoples' Movement for Restructuring held in Kiev the Canadian student Christina Freeland who is a student at Harvard University (U.S.) and now in Kiev as a tourist, spoke on behalf of "Ukrainians living in the West."

This particular "tourist's" name is already familiar to readers of PRAVDA UKRAINY. On 30 April of this year in an article entitled "Abuse of Hospitality" we reported on how this student, who was then studying at Kiev University, used her study time. Appearing before students, she propagandized the idea of nationalism and justified the destructive activities of foreign OUNs [Organizations of Ukrainian Nationalists] and incited the audience to commit illegal acts. She acted as the link between leaders of the extremist nationalist organization UKhS [Ukrainian Helsinki Association] and Western correspondents accredited in the USSR. She herself also supplied slanderous anti-Soviet materials to the Western press. During the customs inspection upon her entry into the Soviet Union in March of this year, instructions for the collection of political information for the benefit of the foreign OUN were found in her possession.

C. Freeland's illegal activities were discovered and the USSR MVD then notified the Canadian Embassy in Moscow.

And now C. Freeland is the welcome guest of the organizers of the Ukrainian Peoples' Movement Congress. Moreover, she is not alone. There were other guests of the OUN at the congress. For instance, Taras Hunchak, the chief editor of the journal SUCHASNIST which is published by the foreign OUN organization ZP

UGVR (Foreign Office of the Central Ukrainian Liberation Council). He is the author of the following anti-Soviet books published in the West: "Russian Imperialism," "A Reevaluation of Simon Petlura and Ukrainian-Jewish Relations," "Chronicle of the Ukrainian Insurrection Army," and also an opus on the SS Galichina division.

T. Hunchak was in Kiev at the invitation of I. Drach who even took care of arranging a room for him at the Dnepr Hotel.

Kazakh Foreign Minister Favors Expanded International Role for Republic

*18320027 Alma-Ata SOTSIALISTIK QAZAQSTAN
in Kazakh 1 Jun 89 p 3*

[Interview with M.I. Yesenaliyev, Kazakh SSR minister of foreign affairs, by Ye. Smayylov: "The Republic's Diplomatic Ladder"]

[Excerpts] [Smayylov] Meke, it is understandable that the interest of the people in the work of the republic's Ministry of Foreign Affairs should grow at the present time, when the processes of perestroyka, democratization and glasnost are, as time goes on, becoming more actively and more firmly expressed in the service of our nations foreign policy. Let us, therefore, begin the discussion there.

[Yesenaliyev] Certain things must be mentioned in this connection. First of all, it is true that most readers will not know what the functions of the Kazakh SSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs are. However, I will not discuss this now. We will put it off to another day. Secondly, I will not go into our achievements and accomplishments. The reason is that this will sometimes not be understood properly. Leaving these things aside, it seems as if it would be more important to say something about our attitude towards perestroyka, and our tasks in terms of perestroyka.

Expansion of rights in all sectors of union republics has made it possible for them to participate actively in international affairs. The official organ overseeing the interests of the republic in this area is the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. For this reason organizational tasks of the first priority lie before us. We must, while raising the status of the ministry, confer it with an official quality, and make more exact its operations and functions, to meet the needs of the times. As a result of such efforts, and on account of the great support and understanding shown us by the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, "Regulations for the Kazakh SSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs" have now come into being. According to these regulations, the primary function of the ministry is to organize the entire complex of the foreign relations of the Kazakh SSR. With this purpose in mind, the structure of the ministry has been reviewed, and new goals and functions have been specified for its departments. For the first time a department for foreign economic relations has been formed.

[Smayylov] In this regard, the perspective of solidarity of the republic with foreign countries, the nations of Asia and the Pacific rim, has generated great interest. Can you discuss this briefly.

[Yesenaliyev] We can speak not just of the perspective, but of the first concrete results. Let me start with the PRC, our nearest neighbor, with which we are connected by a frontier 1,500 versts long. We have particular responsibility in terms of restoring Soviet-Chinese relations.

The connections of Kazakhstan with the Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region in the PRC are multifaceted and systematic. We have signed a contract for the exchange of goods worth 50 million Swiss francs. An agreement has been reached on the question of planning and building a railway to connect Druzhba Station in the USSR and Alashangow Station in the PRC. We intend to look into the the questions of construction and refurbishment of heat and electrical stations in Xinjiang, of organizing joint production in non-ferrous metals and of geological survey work. We are giving consideration to Kazakhstan's providing electricity to northwestern PRC rayons.

An effective solidarity is developing between the Kazakh SSR and the Republic of Afghanistan. This was initially in terms of some Kazakhstan oblasts providing humanitarian aid to the Afghan provinces of Uruzgan, Zabol and Kandagar, which are in economic difficulty. Our aid has now acquired a new character.

The potential of a great Soviet republic like Kazakhstan for possible expansion of trade-economic, sociopolitical, cultural and other connections with the countries of Asia is great. Such relations with the countries of Asia and of the Pacific rim are an important means for establishing conditions of trust, peace and security.

We are continuing to develop relations with firms in various capitalist countries (Italy, the United States, France, and the FRG). A contract has been signed whereby the Kazakhitaldarakul enterprise cooperative will be formed in Kazakhstan to process karakul hides and manufacture articles from them in cooperation with an Italian company. There is the perspective of direct solidarity based upon oil and gas fields in western Kazakhstan.

[Smayylov] Comrade minister, have you not created the impression among our readers that there are no problems in the development of republic foreign policy and foreign economic activism? In addition, the question of why such relations have not been developed in the past needs an answer.

[Yesenaliyev] I have no wish to create such an incorrect impression. There has been much rough sailing and more problems than we can cope with. In fact, the work we are carrying out now to revitalize the republics' international functions are intended to carry out the provisions of Article 80 of the USSR Constitution fully.

At present we are gradually beginning to resolve the question of active participation by the Soviet Union, and by the republics in international affairs. The matter is being considered at the highest levels. The first major steps in the area of foreign economic connections, the most important sector of the USSR's international relations, have been made. Broad rights have been given to the republics, and their organizations. Foreign trade unions functioning on an economic basis have been created in each of them.

[Smayylov] We are pleased to see the good examples of what has been achieved. At the same time, we have confidence that the republic's international organizations are undergoing a resolute perestroyka along new lines. However, it can be said that relations between states acquire their full significance to the degree that cultural and humanitarian relations develop alongside active economic ones? Why are our achievements in this area limited?

[Yesenaliyev] There are many reasons. Countries are "interested" or "uninterested" depending upon their own circumstances.

Likewise, there is nothing special about Kazakhstan's participation in the international information sector and in the work of international organizations.

[Smayylov] We encounter a question regarding another side of this problem in our readers' letters, which is—why are all republics unable to participate in the United Nations Organization on an equal basis?

[Yesenaliyev] Indeed, of the 15 Soviet republics, only the Ukrainian SSR and Belorussian SSR have their own representatives in the United Nations. However, it is not inappropriate to raise the question, in terms of present day international society, of other Soviet republics having their own representatives in international organizations. And should we be thinking of regional associations? Why, for example, should not the RSFSR, Kazakhstan and the Central Asian republics not participate in the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific Ocean. In truth, Kazakhstan, in terms of its economic product, is similar to some countries of southern and eastern Asia. Would it not, for that reason, be beneficial to specialists and scientists to discuss together their views on regional problems?

There may be other ways of resolving the question of union republics participating in the work of international organizations. But it seems as if the time has come to review the concept of their participation in such activities. We need such participation to make the interests of our multi-ethnic nation clear to all and, upon this basis, to advance these interests as much as possible.

KaSSR: What Makes a 'Backward Rayon' Backward

18320025b

[Editorial Report] Alma-Ata SOTSIALISTIK QAZAQSTAN in Kazakh on 20 June carries on page 2 a 4,200-word article by Q. Qabdelov and N. Muftakhov entitled "Real Action, Effective Measures Needed." The article, part of a continuing series of looks at "backward rayons," looks at Qyzylqogha Rayon in Guryev Oblast, which is devoted to sheep raising and is situated along the Ural river, near the Caspian sea. The key problems of the area are water, isolation and official neglect. Although located along a major river, much of the Ural water that might be used to irrigate local pastures has already been used up (for irrigation and reservoirs farther up stream) by the time it reaches the rayon. Other sources of water are unreliable and plans to pipe in water remain unfulfilled. As a result, although rayon enterprises control 66,000 hectares, only about 10,000 are usable pasture due to water shortage, and only a fraction of that can actually be used in most years since water supplies are not only short, but unreliable (meaning that hay must often be shipped in, at great expense, meaning that numbers of livestock maintained are unrealistic in view of what the area can normally support, more fixation with numbers). In spite of this chronic problem, however, the eight area sovkhozes do make a profit from their 305,000 sheep and smaller numbers of other animals. But, as Qabdelov and Muftakhov make clear, it does them little good since such is the isolation of the rayon, and the degree of its neglect in higher places, that these profits cannot be translated into higher living standards. More specifically, housing in the rayon is dilapidated and sadly deficient with 80 percent lacking central heating (there is too little coal in any case and bad roads make it expensive, leaving aside a serious local pollution problem from burning what coal is available in older, inefficient furnaces). There are too few places in local schools, and most rayon schools lack not only heat but plumbing (they serve 7,275 students, mostly in split-sessions). Cultural facilities (clubs etc.) are all but non-existent, and where they do exist are sadly incomplete (where new clubs have been built, they remain shells). A planned and urgently needed local hospital has still not even been begun. Food spoils in local food stores due to lack of adequate storage including freezers.

The reasons why such problems continue to persist are two-fold: authorities simply fail to see to it that measures decided upon and plans made are carried out (this problem has been chronic, for decades). Most remain on paper. Secondly, most construction and other plans which rayon authorities have attempted to carry out, have been drawn-up completely without local conditions and limitations in mind. Thus construction plans make provision for local sources of raw materials when such local sources are not available, and when it is not practical to bring them in from the outside due to poor roads, distances and lack of transportation. There is also a shortage of labor locally and local capital resources are

simply not structured to support a rapid built up. Thus, year after year, plans are made for improvements, including piped in water to supply dry pastures better, but no improvements are actually made. The authors, however, end on a positive note, with the promise of an oblast party official that this time plans (in terms of an April government decision to develop isolated rayon) will be realized. They seem doubtful.

Kazakh Health Minister Stresses Environmental Dangers

18320025a

[Editorial Report] Alma-Ata SOTSIALISTIK QAZAQSTAN in Kazakh on 20 June carries on page 4 a 1,300-word interview recorded by T. Bitayev with KaSSR Deputy Minister of Health Gulshara Ghazizqyzy Ormurzina entitled "Cleanliness, a Guarantee of Health." In the interview, which inaugurates a new rubric on public health issues, Ormurzina is questioned, among other things, about health issues as discussed by the recently concluded session of the USSR Congress of People's Deputies, republic improvements in the general area of public health in recent years, what is being done in preventive medicine in particular (above all in response to environmental problems and their influence upon health), areas of the KaSSR most impacted by environmental problems and thus most needing preventive medicine, republic priorities in this area, and specific problems to which her ministry, and the republic health care system must respond. Although Ormurzina repeatedly emphasizes what she sees as real progress in public health in the KaSSR, and the importance of a renewed national commitment, she also makes clear the dangers posed by continued environmental deterioration, which is creating new, severe public health problems. These include increased infant mortality, more children born with defects, higher rates of infant disease and related difficulties. However, illnesses caused by poor living conditions, air, water and surface pollution, and poor health care, she also notes, are by no means confined to the young, and although concentrated in certain parts of the republic are a problem everywhere. She stresses that a sincere effort is being made to respond to the problems, and calls for the authorities to cooperate to this end, but also makes clear that individual health problems caused by environmental deterioration cannot be fully dealt with unless the overall causes of that deterioration are understood, the deterioration itself reversed (and environmental and lifestyle "cleanliness" restored). In this connection she chides authorities for resolutions and decision which sound good but remain on paper and are not carried out fully in practice.

Crimean Hemorrhagic Fever Endemic in Kazakhstan

18320021b Alma-Ata SOTSIALISTIK QAZAQSTAN in Kazakh 17 May 89 p 3

[Article by Ye. Alimzhanov: "Preventing the Spread of a Dangerous Disease"]

[Text] An extremely dangerous contagious disease has appeared in Sarysu Rayon of Dzhambul Oblast. This disease is known in the world under the names Crimean, Congo and blood fever. It was identified in our country in the Crimea in 1945 by Academician M.N. Chumakov. In earlier times, at least every third person died from this disease.

In Kazakhstan the disease has appeared in Kyzyl-Orda, Chimkent and Dzhambul Oblasts. Local people call it "Koqala". The viruses of the disease develop in ticks, in rodents. The viruses, transmitted to humans by the ticks, damage the circulatory system. Doctor Malik Abdikarimov first diagnosed the illness in Dzhambul Oblast in 1982.

At that time, however, the doctor said, it was impossible to write an article warning about the disease, not even in a research journal intended for mass consumption.

What kind of illness is it? For the purposes of informing our readers, it is a disease essentially spread by ticks. Two or three days after a tick has bitten, or after his blood has infected the body, a person suffers from headache, and his temperature rises. His organism weakens, his heart sickens and he begins to vomit. The external symptoms: there is reddening of neck and face and the stool becomes blackened. Those infected suffer from dried up nasal passages and nose bleeding. There may be blood spitting due to damage to the lungs. The most difficult thing is that the blood refuses to clot and there is continual bleeding. This is very dangerous for a person's life.

S.V. Qazaqov, chief of the Extremely Dangerous Diseases Division of the Oblast Public Health-Epidemiological Station:

—There has never previously been a case of Crimean or blood fever as endemic in the territories of the USSR as it is in Sarysu Rayon.

In fact, the number of those infected with the disease in the Sarysu region has reached 36 in a short period of time, and three have died. The reasons that the disease has spread like this is that the decision has been made to have livestock of many enterprises give birth in the sand. In early times our ancestors, who knew all about sheep-raising, rejected the sands, and moved to the high steppe, where it was not hot during the day and where the ticks did not thrive. Our breaking this tradition has created great danger for the people. For example, ticks have bitten 11 of the infected.

At the same time, another cause is the careless and indifferent attitudes of persons directly responsible for managing such enterprises. This is because they have known quite well that this very dangerous disease has been in the oblast since 1982. Thus, in accordance with the resolution of the Extraordinary Anti-Epidemiological Commission, and likewise articles 137-140 of the Kazakh SSR Labor Law, they are obligated to equip herdsmen with special clothing. During the

months of May and June, shepherds and herd watchers must wear rubberized gloves, shoes and overalls when on herding duty. Unfortunately, such measures have not been carried out in Sarysu, Qamqaly, Tugysken, imeni Kalinina, Zhangatas, Kommunar and Bayqadam sovkhoses. The herdsmen have been forced to take up the ticks in their bare hands. Veterinary disinfection stations have taken a light-hearted view of their work. They have not been disinfecting corals or pens according to need and completely.

One frightening thing: since the 15th of May a general sheep-shearing campaign has begun in the southern areas of our republic. According to the researches of the Kazakh Microbiological, Epidemiological and Infectious Diseases Institute, the virus is found on the body of every third tick in an area where the disease is endemic. There is presently no possibility for destroying the virus. The best measures is prevention.

Lambing livestock in the desert means great concern for the health of herdsmen. However, one thing must be remembered. Thousands of animals go to the Saryarqa during the summer. And there is no place where sheep, and the ticks adhering to them, do not go, where they do not mix with one another. For this reason we must give careful consideration to the question of not spreading this dangerous illness to other areas.

Proposals to Improve Kirghiz Life in Uzbekistan Put Forth

18330018b

[Editorial Report] Frunze SOVETNIK KYRGYZSTAN in Kirghiz on 23, 25 April 1989 carries on page 3 a 4,900 word two-part article by B. Ryspayev, chairman of the Kirghiz SSR State Committee for Publishing, Printing and the Book Trade, headlined "Cooperation—A Source Of Friendship" in which he reports on recommendations made by the Commission for Interethnic Relations of the Central Committee of the Kirghiz CP which recently returned from a fact-finding tour on the culture and status of the Kirghiz minority in the Uzbek SSR. The report's conclusions were buttressed by discussions at the Tashkent conference on "important questions in the development of interethnic relations" and a round table discussion in Frunze to discuss the book "Important Questions In The Development Of Interethnic Relations And Internationalistic And Patriotic Education." "We consider that the extremely negative criticism of Kirghiz life in Uzbekistan and Tajikistan is completely justified." It was determined that there were virtually no opportunities for the Kirghiz to study their own language, even in regions where they constituted a majority or large minority and that they had no representation in party, soviet or trade union organizations. The commission made four recommendations which they felt would begin to raise the status of Kirghiz as a nationality. First, a Kirghiz language education network, up to and including Kirghiz language schools, be established in regions where there were large Kirghiz populations as

determined by the January 1989 census. Second, textbooks and other Kirghiz language and literature materials should be allocated for and distributed to these regions; this would require the opening of special bookstores. Third, all relevant Kirghiz SSR ministries and public organizations must work to develop inter-republic relations and cooperation with their counterparts in other republics "in order to improve the people's cultural and living standards." Fourth, "new forms" of sociopolitical measures must be sought out to promote direct contacts with the Kirghiz minorities. In a more general context, Ryspayev also suggests that special committees for nationality relations be established under Communist Party leadership down to the obkom level, that "special scientific research institutes for interethnic relations be established under the USSR Academy of Sciences as well as under union republic academies of sciences, and that special faculties for nationality relations be established at all higher party schools.

UkSSR Council of Ministers Chairman on Economy, Ecology

18001596 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian
22 Aug 89 p 3

[Interview with V. A. Masol, chairman of the Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers: "Regional Cost Accounting and Ecology"]

[Text][Question] Obviously, it does not have to reiterated that the condition of the economy is theme number one in discussions at all levels, from the state—keep in mind the past session of the USSR Supreme Soviet—to the family. Recently ever greater hopes are being placed upon regional cost accounting in this regard. However, sometimes one hears the opinion (in particular this has been expressed by some USSR Supreme Soviet peoples deputies) that in the Ukraine there is no hurry with expanding economic sovereignty based upon the principles of self-management and self-financing, that supposedly we lack clear directions for the introduction of regional cost accounting. Vitaliy Andreevich, what is your opinion about this?

[Masol] This is not at all true. I think that it is necessary to make these questions clear.

The republic government is operating from the assumption that the transition to regional cost accounting should, as much as possible, be made without sizable economic losses and pain to the entire national economy. This requires very serious theoretical and analytic work on several difficult questions.

Also, our economy's size and the number of its economic and production linkages outside the republic require unique approaches to this problem and a scientifically based forecast.

For a long time now preparations for converting to self-management and self-financing have been under way in the republic. Gosplan and scientific organizations

have worked out three alternative sets of concepts for cost accounting in the republic. A draft of General Principles for the Economic Independence of the Republic is being developed on their basis. The economic council prepared specific measures for the transition to the new economic conditions approved by a Council of Ministers' decree.

These measures call for drafting several dozen laws and other normative-methodological documents (about 100) to cover restructuring the principles of the republic's socio-economic development, to determine the boundaries of the competence of high level structures in sectoral management and of the main element of an economically independent republic economy.

I also have in mind solutions to questions regarding the approval of principles for the new taxation and formation of budgeting systems in oblasts, cities, rayons, villages and the entire republic, taking into consideration the further development of leasing, cooperative, share owned and other forms for activities. Altogether this work is being done by more than 50 organizations: central planning and economic organs, ministries and agencies, scientific and educational institutions. These include institutes in the UkSSR Academy of Sciences, all institutes in UkSSR Gosplan, the UkSSR Academy of Sciences' Council for the Study of Productive Forces, executive committees for oblasts and for Kiev.

[Question] Even without thorough study it is obvious that oblasts and regions of differing economic potential have unequal initial conditions for introducing regional cost accounting. Is the government taking this into consideration in setting equal "starting conditions" for the republic as a whole and for its individual regions?

[Masol] Yes, several variants for cost accounting relations are being developed with this in mind. First, it is possible to use differentiated normatives for deductions from oblast financial resources to the republic budget. Second, one can foresee the formation of a republic reserve fund for financial assistance (subsidies) to some oblasts during the transition period. These variants' advantages are now being examined.

There is another important problem that will take some time to solve: the financial situation of the republic's economy and the need for its immediate improvement. Here, under conditions of economic independence, the republic's big problem may be the lack of real resources to pay off bank loans from previous years. In the agro-industrial complex alone these total 7 billion rubles.

We should get out from under our debts. Much work is being done in this direction. As a result, this year about a billion rubles in debt will be paid.

[Question] Of course, there can be different measures to improve the financial situation and money supply, but what will be the fate of unprofitable enterprises?

[Masol] This is a very urgent question. I do not think that it is necessary to prove that the unprofitability of cost accounting and self-financing at the enterprise level is nonsense. Therefore, much work is now being done to improve the financial condition of enterprises and associations. In particular, there are provisions to considerably reduce the number of enterprises that are not fulfilling profit plans. This will make it possible to save more than 200 million rubles in budget allocations and to reduce the number of loss making enterprises by 610. Through budget allocations, bank credits and their own resources enterprises and organizations have almost completely eliminated the shortcomings in their own current assets. In 6 months we found 820 million rubles to reduce the budget deficit. By the end of the year even more can be done in this direction.

[Question] Vitaliy Andreyevich, can there be regional cost accounting with the presently existing prices and price formation system?

[Masol] Here there should also be complete clarity. We understand that the present price system, with all its shortcomings, is a product of the historical development of the entire country's economy. It is also obvious that these prices do not meet the requirements of economic reform.

Take just the purchase prices for agricultural products. The situation here cannot be considered normal. With the republic's transition to cost accounting and self financing it is simply not permissible. The lack of economic substantiation for prices has led to a situation where regions with higher costs also have higher production efficiency. For example, the cost of a ton of milk in the Ukraine is roughly equal to that in Belorussia and the Baltic republics (296 rubles here and 284-303 rubles there). However, last year our sales price was 367 rubles, while in the Baltic republics it was 406-453 rubles, and in Belorussia, 514 rubles per ton. As a result, their profitability is 2-3 times higher.

There is a similar difference in the economic efficiency of beef production, while pork production in the republic is losing money, but at the same time in Belorussia, where production costs are 102 rubles higher, the profit rate is 33 percent higher. The situation is similar for many other types of products. Therefore, we think that the republic's economic sovereignty, its self-management and self-financing can become real only through the mandatory introduction of the very important principle of price stimulation for production in regions as proclaimed in the March (1989) CPSU Central Committee Plenum.

However, the price reform has been postponed somewhat. This is an additional complication, because with existing prices it is difficult to attain economically justified, and therefore mutually advantageous exchange of commodities between republics. In the first stage there could be some kind of compromise, but we have not even reached this.

Our positions are clear here: The republic should reliably know its contribution to the country's economy and how much the sales of products provide for social and economic development. Under these conditions it is very important that prices do not become the reason for unequal exchange between republics. This could disrupt the very basis of cost accounting.

This is a short answer to your questions about regional cost accounting. I only want to stress that we are making the preparations as quickly as possible.

[Question] So far you and I have talked about problems in the development of regional cost accounting. However, all this may be for nothing and all our efforts in vain if the ecological crisis is not stopped. True, much is being done in the Ukraine to improve the environment, but what are the basic directions in this activity?

[Masol] We delineate three main directions of work to solve this difficult problem.

First is the planned implementation of comprehensive measures to reduce environmental pollution by harmful industrial, urban and rural wastes. We are allocated sizable state resources towards these goals. In just 3 years of the current five year plan they exceeded 1.3 billion rubles.

There are already some results from this work: emissions into the atmosphere have been reduced by 1.2 million tons, 77,000 hectares of damaged land have been recultivated and transferred for use, important measures have been implemented to reduce the pollution of reservoirs and to improve water resources. It is sufficient to note that water use per ruble of national income has declined by almost 15 percent over 3 years. The entire growth in industrial capacity is supplied exclusively by increases in recycled water.

Recently the republic government approved a program to improve air quality in the airshed. Its main goal is to reduce harmful emissions by motor vehicles. In large cities they account for 60-80 percent of all emissions. This program calls for 3 years of work rebuilding and technically reequipping petroleum refineries in the republic, organizing the production of low sulfur diesel fuel and lead free gasoline. Already this year its share in total gasoline production should increase from 13 to 45 percent of all gasoline.

The second major direction is to create an ecologically based strategy for further economic development in the republic, taking into account the condition of its natural resource potential and the increased technogenic stresses upon the environment. This strategy is reflected in the Scheme for the Development and Location of Productive Forces in the Ukrainian SSR to the Year 2005, the compilation and coordination of which is now being completed. This document foresees fundamental structural changes in the republic's economy about which I have already spoken in a speech to the USSR Congress of People's Deputies. In particular, our intentions are

directed towards restricting the development of the mining sectors and industries which are harmful to the air, land, resources and the environment.

[Question] How are these approaches being realized in practice? Just what specific examples of the government's position can you give?

[Masol] I can say that the republic government has refused to permit the construction of several chemical, petrochemical and microbiological industry facilities and has forbidden industrial construction in the Crimea that is not directly related to meeting the needs of the local population or tourists. The republic also forbade the construction of the Dneprovsk-Bug water resources project and the Konstantinovka GAES, part of the South Ukrainian complex. Also recall the rejection of the ecologically dangerous Danube-Dnepr Canal, and the stricter limitations upon new industrial construction in large cities and in ecologically sensitive regions.

Problems in power engineering development have a special place in this work. They are very complicated and are closely linked to limited fuel resources and to the objective need to further increase the production of electrical and thermal energy to meet the growing needs of the economy and the public. I think that we should stick to a balanced and realistic approach to the power engineering development, either thermal or nuclear plants. Even from an ecological perspective there are quite complicated problems to solve in these two directions. Thermal power plants account for about one-third of all industrial emissions of harmful substances into the atmosphere. The negative aspects of present day nuclear power plants are also widely known.

[Question] Vitaliy Andreyevich, what is your position on these questions? Do the the Soviet and republic governments have similar views on the development of nuclear power in the Ukraine?

[Masol] I should firmly state that in contrast to the viewpoints of representatives from some Soviet organs, we are for the minimally necessary development of nuclear power in the republic, and only at existing nuclear power plants and those under construction. The maximum capacity should be within the limits already agreed upon with the republic and approved in designs. Based upon this viewpoint we have already forbade the construction of eight blocks at the Chernobyl AES. Neither will the Odessa and Kharkov ATETs be built. There is a ruling to halt the construction of the Chigirin AES and soon a decision will be made to prohibit the construction of the Crimean AES.

Given our limited possibilities for the construction of nuclear and thermal electric power plants, scientists in the republic, and in particular at the Academy of Sciences, should make more proposals about energy conserving technologies and new energy resources.

Finally, the third direction in our work is the creation and use of an economic mechanism for resource use. The free use of natural resources and the lack of any economy responsibility for environmental pollution substantially reduces the efficiency of the present system for planning and managing natural resource use.

The ecologization of economic management at all levels is primarily based upon payment for the use of natural

resources and compensation for damage inflicted by all types of environmental pollution. This mechanism is already being experimentally introduced in several cities and regions in our republic. We think that the use of economic tools will considerably improve natural resource use.

These are my answers to your questions about solving ecological problems.